

هكذا منه الأصل

Elie Salem arrives in Paris

PARIS (R) — Lebanese Foreign Minister Elie Salem arrived unexpectedly in Paris for talks with the French external relations minister Friday as the search for a negotiated ceasefire in and around Beirut gathered momentum. As Mr. Salem arrived en route for New York the French government suffered a major political embarrassment when their Communist Party allies called for the withdrawal of the 2,000-strong French contingent from the Multinational Force in Lebanon. Georges Marchais, leader of the French Communist Party which has four ministers in the Socialist administration, Friday urged in a statement that French troops should be withdrawn if a United Nations force could not replace the Multinational Force. Mr. Salem is due to meet French External Relations Minister Claude Cheysson Saturday and diplomatic sources said the main topic would be the latest moves to find a negotiated ceasefire.

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New Delhi energy conference ends

NEW DELHI (R) — A World Energy Conference ended Friday with calls for industrialised nations to speed up aid to the Third World and help it overcome critical energy problems. Delegates from 72 countries attending the six-day conference repeatedly voiced the need for rapid development of non-oil and other renewable sources of energy for both developed and developing countries. "It is urgent that the more fortunate help the less fortunate," said a statement read at the closing session. The Third World needed development aid in the form of financial resources, transfer of technology and transfer of managerial and engineering skills, the communiqué added. Krishna Chandra Pant, chairman of the advisory board of energy for the Indian government, said most of the world's population was struggling to subsist on levels of energy consumption that were hardly sufficient to meet even the most basic needs of human life.

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Failure of Western Sahara talks may split OAU

ADDIS ABABA (R) — The collapse of an African mini-summit on the conflict in the Western Sahara has renewed fears of a split within the Organisation of African Unity (OAU), diplomats said Friday. The issue of the conflict between Morocco and Polisario guerrillas reemerged as a threat to African Unity Thursday when a special OAU committee abandoned efforts to find a settlement. At the opening session of the special committee on the eight-year-old conflict on Wednesday, the organisation's current chairman, Ethiopian leader Mengistu Haile Mariam, said the dispute threatened the OAU's very existence.

Red Cross visits Israeli prisoners

GENEVA (R) — Officials of the International Red Cross have visited two Israeli soldiers held prisoner by the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine General Command (PFLP-GC) for the second time since they were captured in the Israeli invasion of Lebanon last year, a Red Cross spokesman said Friday. Three officials, one of them a doctor, met the prisoners on Sept. 16 at a secret location and passed on messages from the men's families, the spokesman said. He declined to reveal the condition of the prisoners or their location, citing "security reasons," but said the first visit had taken place on May 3.

Ceausescu sends message to Syria, Libya

VIENNA (R) — Romanian President Nicolae Ceausescu has sent separate messages to Syrian President Hafez Al Assad and Libyan leader Muammar Qadhafi, the official news agency Agerpres said Friday. The agency gave no details of the contents of either message. But Western diplomats said they assumed they dealt with the present situation in the Middle East. Romania is the only Soviet bloc state that maintains diplomatic ties with Israel.

Demonstrators in Syria attack French policy

DAMASCUS (R) — Several thousand Syrians and Iraqis demonstrated outside the French embassy in Damascus Friday against France's Middle East policy, especially towards Lebanon and the Iran-Iraq war. The demonstrators, facing a police and security forces cordon around the embassy, issued a statement calling the policy "imperialist" and "hostile to the Arab Nation" before dispersing after about an hour.

Hijacked airliner lands safely in Puerto Rico

SAN JUAN, Puerto Rico (R) — An American Airlines Boeing 727 which was hijacked to Cuba by a man claiming to have a bomb strapped to his body landed safely in San Juan Thursday night after a three-hour forced stopover in Havana.

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U.S. Navy opens fire on Lebanese militias

BEIRUT (R) — The U.S. Navy and Marines on shore shelled militia positions near Beirut Friday as ceasefire moves, earlier reported to be nearing success, again appeared deadlocked.

The navy cruiser Virginia and Marines at Beirut Airport opened up after the Marines came under heavy fire during battles between the Lebanese army and leftist militiamen in south Beirut.

As the battles went on, Lebanese government sources revealed that Syria had demanded last-minute changes to a draft ceasefire agreement worked out by Saudi mediators.

The latest Syrian demands were unacceptable to Lebanon, the sources said.

The Lebanese government had agreed that it should not be represented in an initial "national reconciliation committee" made up only of the country's warring factions to discuss the future shape of Lebanon.

But the sources said Syria demanded Friday that the decisions of such a committee should be made binding on the Beirut government and this was unacceptable.

U.S. Marines at Beirut Airport came under intense shelling later Friday evening, with rounds lan-

ding at the rate of one every five seconds, state-run Beirut Radio reported.

It interrupted its programmes for a news flash to announce the shelling.

The latest deadlock came as a surprise to many Lebanese officials and diplomats who had spoken earlier Friday of an imminent ceasefire, perhaps as early as Friday night. But it did not surprise most Beirut residents who simply braced for further fighting.

As news of the latest deadlock spread, shells began crashing into southern suburbs, including Bourj Al Brajneh, next to Beirut Airport where the 1,200 U.S. Marines, part of a four-nation force, are based.

The impact of the shells rocked the entire city and state-run Beirut Radio said they were being fired from Dour Abadiyeh, in the hills about 15 kilometres to the east, where Syrian-backed Progressive Socialist Party (PSP) and other militias have positions.

Earlier, a U.S. Marines spokesman said the missile cruiser USS Virginia fired one of its five-inch guns and the Marines used a 155 mm Howitzer against positions east of Beirut Airport.

The naval and ground fire, between seven and 7.10 p.m. (1700 and 1710 GMT) came after the Marines based around Beirut Airport had two men wounded when they came under fire from mortars, machine-guns, rifles and even an anti-aircraft gun, according to a Marines' spokesman.

The fire appeared to be part of battles between the Lebanese army and PSP militias in suburbs close to the airport and in the nearby hills but there was no doubt much of it was directed at the Marines, other Marines said.

The King's cables condolences BEIRUT (Petra) — His Majesty King Hussein Thursday sent a cable of condolences to the Arslan family on the death of Lebanese Druze leader Prince Majid Arslan.

The departure of Prince Arslan, the King said, has filled my heart with sorrow and pain for the loss of a great statesman known for his national vigour and loyalty to Lebanon and the Arab Nation.

The King's cable was delivered to the deceased sons and family in Beirut by Jordan's charge d'affaires in Beirut Nalf Al Qadhi.



Lebanese army troops and anti-government forces exchanged small arms fire Thursday, as efforts continued to work out a ceasefire in Lebanon. (A.P. wirephoto)

Hassan, Saddam review Arab issues

AMMAN (Petra) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent, and Iraqi President Saddam Hussein reviewed the current situation in the Arab World in general, and the Iran-Iraq war, deterioration in the Lebanese situation and their impact on the well-being and destiny of the Arab Nation in particular.

In a telephone call Thursday Prince Hassan and the Iraqi president agreed on the need for world-wide drive by states and

organisations to end the Iranian aggression against Iraq, and press the Iranian leadership into responding positively to Iraq's call for peace, which is based on Iraq's concern for establishing good-neighbourly relations between the two countries based on the principles of justice, righteousness and International Law.

President Saddam and the Crown Prince expressed mutual concern over the deteriorating situation in Lebanon and the threat

of possible partition, and warned that the Arabs will pay dearly for the continuation of the factional war taking place in Lebanon.

Prince Hassan and President Saddam called on the Arab Nation to make an effort and put an end to the factional strife in Lebanon, and to press the warring factions into preserving Lebanese legitimacy and reaching a balanced national reconciliation among the Lebanese.

Gulf Air crash kills 112 people

BAHRAIN (R) — A Gulf Air Boeing 737 crashed Friday near Abu Dhabi in the United Arab Emirates (UAE), the airline said, and all 112 people aboard were reported killed.

A Gulf Air statement said the two-engine jet, on a flight from Karachi to Bahrain, crashed about 48 kilometres from Abu Dhabi Airport.

The terse statement said that technical and rescue teams had rushed to the scene, but made no mention of casualties.

The official UAE News Agency WAM said the plane had burned after crashing and all 112 people aboard had been killed. The cause

of the crash was not known. The Qatar News Agency said contact with the aircraft was lost 20 minutes before it had been due to land at Abu Dhabi after a scheduled stop at Muscat.

This is believed to be the first fatal accident involving Gulf Air's fleet of passenger jets.

The Bahrain-based airline, established in 1950, is owned jointly by the governments of Bahrain, Qatar, the UAE and Oman.

Most passengers on the Gulf Air flight were Pakistanis returning to work in the Gulf after Muslim holidays. Karachi Airport officials said.

The officials told Reuters the

Pakistanis had come home for the festival of sacrifice called Eid Al Adha, which was celebrated last Sunday and Monday.

The officials said the Gulf Air Boeing 737 took off normally at 3.06 p.m. (1106 GMT) for the 90-minute flight to Bahrain.

Flight controllers here registered an emergency call from the plane after it entered the Bahrain flight control area but the pilot was not able to give any information on the plane's problem before it crashed, they said.

Gulf Air officials in Karachi declined to comment on the crash, referring all queries to the airline's headquarters in Bahrain.

Iraq supports plans for new pipeline

BAGHDAD (R) — Iraq said Thursday it supported Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) plans to build a pipeline to the Arabian Sea to bypass the vulnerable Strait of Hormuz at the mouth of the Gulf.

In a statement to the newspaper Al Jumhuriya, Oil Minister Qasim Ahmad Taqi said: "The new pipeline will help Gulf countries export their oil if navigation in the Hormuz Strait stops for any reason."

Iran, Baghdad's foe in the three-year-old Gulf war, has threatened to close the narrow strait, through which almost a sixth of the non-Communist world's oil supply passes by tanker, if Iraq tries to disrupt Iranian oil shipments.

Diplomatic sources in Baghdad have said Iraq might use promised French Super Etendard fighters equipped with Exocet missiles to attack Iranian oil installations.

The Gulf council, which groups Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, the United Arab Emirates, Bahrain, Oman and Qatar, is considering building

the pipeline through the central Arabian deserts to enable their oil exports to continue in the event of closure of the strait.

Iraq is building a pipeline through Saudi Arabia to Yanbu on the Red Sea, with a projected capacity of over one million barrels per day.

The war has closed its Gulf ports while Syria, which backs Iran in the conflict, has shut a pipeline across its territory to Iraqi crude.

It would consider reopening negotiations on the future of the Sagunto plan, which is due to be partially closed down under a recent restructuring plan.

They have promised alternative employment for half of the plant's 4,000 workforce who are expected to lose their jobs.

Prime Minister Felipe Gonzalez, who faced tough criticism from Communist politicians over the sanctions, said labour discipline had to be maintained while industry was made more competitive before Spain's entry to the European Community, planned by 1986.

Cyprus appoints new minister

NICOSIA (R) — Cyprus President Spyros Kyprianou has appointed George Iacovu, director general of the Foreign Ministry since January, as the country's new foreign minister.

An official announcement Thursday night said Mr. Iacovu, the Cyprus ambassador to Bonn before returning to the Foreign Ministry, had been named to succeed Mr. Nicos Rolandis.

Mr. Rolandis resigned three days ago after a dispute over the handling of a U.N. initiative on the Cyprus problem.

Mr. Rolandis, who had been foreign minister since 1978, told Reuters on Tuesday he had resigned because of a difference of opinion with Mr. Kyprianou over the latest U.N. initiative by Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar.

The former minister had publicly urged acceptance of the proposals, a step which the president subsequently took.

The new foreign minister was born in 1938 in a village near Famagusta, now under Turkish army occupation, and studied engineering, economics and business administration at the universities of London and Boston.

Steel workers accept Madrid's terms

MADRID (R) — Workers at a Spanish state steel plant ended an illegal occupation Friday following withdrawal of dismissal notices, a move that headed off a threatened nationwide steel strike.

A union spokesman at the plant in the eastern port of Sagunto said workers had voted to resume normal operations Friday after management agreed to rescind sanction orders sacking 80 men and suspending another 86 if the illegal action was suspended.

The man, producing rail track and construction girders, had staged a work-in after management announced it was closing down

their part of the mill as the first stage in a major streamlining of the plant.

Communist-led unions had threatened nationwide stoppages in the steel sector to protest against the sanctions and accused the government of backing strong-arm tactics to push through its plans to streamline top-heavy industries.

But both government and unions moved swiftly Thursday to defuse the crisis by presenting compromise proposals.

Union leaders proposed workers should follow management orders in exchange for the sanctions being withdrawn.

Industry officials said they

Hussein, Noor in Malaysia

KUALA LUMPUR (Agencies) — Their Majesties King Hussein and Queen Noor Friday started a three-day official visit to Malaysia from Singapore, with a reception at the Malaysian Parliament Square attended by the King and the Queen of Malaysia, who accompanied King Hussein and Queen Noor to inspect a Malaysian guard of honour.

Following a courtesy visit to the Malaysian monarch by Their Majesties, during which the Jordanian accompanying delegation was introduced to the hosting Royal Family, the two monarchs attended Friday noon prayers at the Kuala Lumpur National Mosque.

Later in the afternoon, the King had official talks with Malaysian Acting Prime Minister Datuk Yusof Ismail. The talks were later joined by the Jordanian accompanying delegation, the Malaysian foreign minister and a number of senior Malaysian officials. The two sides exchanged views on Arab and Islamic issues and the situation in South East Asia.

The King explained to the Malaysian officials the latest developments in the Middle East and stressed that the Palestinian question is the crux of the conflict in the region. Peace and security in the Middle East can never be achieved unless a just and durable settlement to the conflict, based on the withdrawal of Israel from the occupied Arab territories, and guaranteeing the legitimate rights of the Arab people of Palestinian are included, the King said.

The Jordanian and Malaysian sides also discussed ways for furthering Islamic solidarity and agreed on the significance of strengthening cooperation among Muslim countries.

The two sides agreed on coordinating stands at the Islamic and international levels, while views on bilateral issues were identical, the Jordanian News Agency, Petra said.

Later in the evening, the King and Queen of Malaysia gave a dinner banquet in honour of Their Majesties, which was attended by the accompanying delegation and senior Malaysian officials.

On Thursday King Hussein had talks with Singapore's President Devan Nair on the various aspects of the Middle-East conflict and ways for strengthening bilateral relations between Jordan and Singapore, particularly at the economic, trade, technical and civil aviation levels.

The King also visited an arms-production complex and the National Industrial Corporation in Singapore, where he was briefed by its director-general on industry in Singapore and its trade relations with foreign countries.

France justifies air strikes as self-defence

PARIS (R) — France Friday justified its air raid on artillery behind Syrian lines in Lebanon as legitimate self-defence and said it was carried out promptly and efficiently.

An External Relations Ministry spokesman said Thursday's raid by Syrian Etendard fighters on a battery in hills east of Beirut came only after fire was aimed deliberately at the headquarters of the French contingent of the Multinational Force, wounding four soldiers.

The spokesman also said a senior French official had met Lebanese Druze leader Walid Junblatt and Syrian Foreign Minister Abdul Halim Khaddam in Damascus Thursday.

The visit by Francis Guttman, close aide to External Relations Minister Claude Cheysson, was to explain the French position on

Israel to expand Jewish presence in Hebron

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (R) — Israel is to expand a Jewish enclave in the Arab city of Hebron on the occupied West Bank following the removal of a major legal obstacle this week, officials said Friday.

They said the town's acting Israeli mayor, Zahir Shemesh, had withdrawn a petition to the Supreme Court from his Arab predecessor which had been blocking expansion for nine months.

The way was now clear to move ahead with reconstruction of Hebron's ancient Jewish quarter in accordance with a government decision three years ago which was

endorsed at a recent cabinet meeting, they added.

Mr. Zahir took over Hebron municipality two months ago after military occupation authorities dismissed Arab Mayor Mustafa Natche, accusing him of inciting violence against Jewish settlers.

After settlers demolished several abandoned houses to make room for apartment blocks last year, Mr. Natche appealed to the court on the grounds that only the municipality could authorise new development. The court issued a temporary ban on construction and was due to consider the issue again next week.

Hebron, the second biggest city on the West Bank with an Arab population of about 40,000, has been a frequent flashpoint for Jewish-Arab violence. Last July, masked gunmen burst into an Islamic college, killing three Arab students and wounding more than 30. The raiders have not been traced.

About 200 Jewish settlers have established themselves in the city centre in several previously derelict buildings.

Several more families live in caravans under heavy military guard, waiting for permanent homes.

Thatcher to visit North America

LONDON (R) — British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher flies to North America this weekend to reinforce nuclear links with the United States and show she has not forgotten Canada.

Canada is first stop on the six-day tour, her first across the Atlantic since she was re-elected last June and the longest trip since an operation seven weeks ago to save her right eye.

The 57-year-old leader, who rode in a tank on an exercise in West Germany earlier this week to prove she has fully recovered, will arrive in Canada on Sunday on her first official visit since becoming prime minister in May 1979.

Canadian officials regard it as long overdue and feel that bilateral relations have been neglected in

recent years as Britain looked more towards the European Community.

Mrs. Thatcher will go on to the United States on Wednesday and aides say she intends to reaffirm Britain's unwavering resolve to deploy U.S. cruise missiles unless the Soviet Union makes some sudden concessions in arms negotiations in Geneva.

Her Washington trip had been planned for last June but was postponed when she called a general election a year early.

Mrs. Thatcher will not meet the new president of the U.N. General Assembly when she visits the United Nations next week, U.N. officials said Thursday.

The president, Jorge Irujo of Panama, made disparaging remarks about her during a Security

Council debate on the Falklands war last year, saying that her policies must be seen in the context of "the glandular system of women."

She said at the time that his comment ought not to be dignified by any reply.

Mrs. Thatcher, heeding an appeal by Indian Prime Minister Indira Gandhi for as many heads of government as possible to come to New York during the assembly session, will spend a few hours at the United Nations next Friday on a side trip from Canada.

Officials said that she would call on Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar and Mrs. Gandhi, head of the Non-Aligned Movement. But she would not pay the customary protocol call on the assembly president, they said, without elaborating.

MIDDLE EAST

Lebanese frontline hospital bears marks of battle as fighting rages on Shouf

By Hugh Carnegie

ALEY, Lebanon (R) — At a frontline hospital in Aley, overlooking Beirut, battle-hardened nurses ducked as a loud "whoosh" signalled an incoming shell about to explode close by.

The hospital, this time, was unharmed by the blast, which seemed to be a few hundred metres away.

But five minutes later an armoured personnel carrier rumbled up to the sand-bagged entrance and two helmeted Progressive Socialist Party gunmen pulled an unconscious figure sprawled face down on a stretcher from the back and rushed him into the emergency room.

Two other fighters, their hair, faces and uniforms plastered with sand and dust, hobbled painfully after them for treatment to minor wounds.

"It was tank rounds," said one as he anxiously watched the hospital's meagre remaining medical staff go to work on his seriously wounded comrade.

The only trained nurse among them was American Maria Gutoski, 28, who injected the soldier with painkillers and a saline drip while her colleagues cut away the man's ripped uniform and clamped an oxygen mask on his bloodied face.

Mrs. Gutoski is one of a team of two doctors, one anaesthetist, one nurse and six nursing assistants manning the formerly private national hospital in Aley which treats most of the casualties from behind anti-government lines around the town.

The hospital lies within a few hundred metres of Lebanese army positions to the north and within two km of the army garrison town of Souk Al Gharb to the west.

Both towns stand atop a strategic mountain ridge which is the main front in fighting between the Syrian-backed PSP and their leftist allies and the army.

From here it is easy to see why the ridge is so crucial in fierce battles raging near Beirut for the past few weeks.

Peering out from behind the cover of Aley's beige-stoned buildings, one has a commanding view of the capital, jutting into the Mediterranean about 15 kilometres to the northwest.

Spread out below are the city centre and all its southern suburbs, including the areas occupied by United States, French, Italian and British troops of the Multi-National Peacekeeping Force (MNF).

Clearly visible in the glowing sea are the dull grey shapes of U.S. navy ships which in recent days have fired hundreds of heavy shells into surrounding mountains to help the Lebanese army hold on to Souk Al Gharb.

Shortly after 1 and two colleagues left Aley Thursday, French Super-Eleopard jets also blasted anti-government positions near the town after four French soldiers in Beirut were wounded in shelling.

It was the first time retaliatory air strikes had been called in by the peacekeeping force.

Maria Gutoski, in blue jeans and a green tartan shirt, fell silent for a moment, then smiled, when asked what went through her mind when she realised her own navy was among those shelling her.

Lebanon independently four months ago "for numerous reasons". She wanted to get involved in "cross-cultural" work, she said. The conversation was punctuated by the regular crash of shells falling nearby and was finally interrupted when the wounded soldier was brought in.

Before him came an elderly Armenian couple who were a shell hit their house, sending masonry and shrapnel falling about them.

The old man, Aram Shatoyan, was unconscious and deathly pale. But his wife Marie spoke perkily to reporters as a hospital staffer pulled tiny fragments of shrapnel from a wound in her head. "I was born in these mountains. I want to die in my house," she said.

One fighter treated for a flesh wound in the leg while we visited the hospital was wearing Lebanese army uniform. He said he was a Druze soldier from the army but he had deserted under cover of darkness two nights ago from his unit in Souk Al Gharb to join his PSP colleagues instead.

He gave his name, but asked for it not to be published. Sources in the PSP, the main anti-government militia, say at least 100 Druze have deserted the army in recent weeks, though the army denies mass desertions.

The hospital is one of two left in Aley operating only as forward medical posts, ferrying their patients back to safer positions for secondary treatment.

The staff say they have treated 230 people, more than half of them civilians, since Sept. 3, the day before Israeli troops withdrew from the area and fighting erupted immediately afterwards. Nineteen died, they say.

They estimate about five per cent of the town's 10,000 civilian population.

inhabitants remain, mostly huddling in their basements below the deserted, shell-smashed streets.

The hospital has taken numerous direct artillery hits and its front courtyard, where a wrecked ambulance stands riddled with bullet holes, is in direct line of sniper fire from across the frontline to the north, the staff say.

As we left in a PSP official's dark green Toyota, its windshield smashed and with a bullet hole in the roof, several rifle shots rang out nearby. We ducked our heads as the car raced up a stretch of exposed road, swerving wildly between shell holes.

At the nearby PSP headquarters, political officers briefed us on their assessment of the fighting in the area.

Contrary to Lebanese army reports, they said they had not launched any group assaults on Souk Al-Gharb since the massive U.S. oavy bombardment last Monday. Most fighting since then involved artillery exchanges and sniper fire, they said.

"Two days ago we took two hills. But then the Marines shelled us so we stopped," said Akram Shehayed. Echoing an earlier statement by PSP leader Walid Junbait, he said the PSP would have taken Souk Al-Gharb if it had not been for the shelling.

He and a colleague also denied repeated charges by Western and Lebanese officials that hundreds of Palestinian guerrillas were involved in the fighting.

He said a few Palestinians who had lived previously in the area had joined in, but he said: "We are Druze only, and we fight as the Druze."

Shehayed said their fight was not against Christians but against the "Kataeb regime", a reference to the claim that Maronite Christian President Amin Gemayel favours the right-wing "Kataeb" militia.

Gulf official accuses oil tankers of exacerbating pollution problem

BAHRAIN (R) — A senior Gulf environmental official has accused oil tankers of cleaning their tanks in the Gulf and polluting its waters, the Gulf oews agency reported Friday.

Khaled Fakhro, head of the Bahrain-based Marine Emergency Mutual Aid Committee (MEMAC), told the agency a number of tankers had been held and necessary measures taken against them. He gave no further details.

His comments followed reports from Iran that it had capped a well in the offshore Nowruz oil field which had been pouring crude into the Gulf for several months.

"Most of the oil found in the Gulf recently was discarded, which means it did not come from Iranian oil wells but from tankers which took advantage of the crisis and cleaned their tanks," he said.

Some oil had also come from newly drilled wells, he added.

Iran says at least three of its offshore wells were damaged earlier this year by Iraqi attacks as a result of the Gulf war. The pollution threat has caused major concern to Gulf littoral states.

A Tehran newspaper Thursday quoted the leader of the team reported to have capped the leaking well as saying no more oil was spilling into the Gulf. The newspaper quoted him as saying in an interview that the other damaged wells were on fire and the leaking oil was burning off.

The Gulf news agency quoted Mr. Fakhro as saying the Kuwait-based Regional Organisation for the Protection of the Marine Environment (ROPME) would meet next month to ratify a plan agreed on by experts meeting in Bahrain to fight oil that had escaped from the leaking Iranian wells.

He said the \$1 million clean-up campaign would be carried out under the supervision of regional pollution experts.

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Senate panel casts anti-Syrian vote

WASHINGTON (R) — A Senate appropriations subcommittee has voted to cut off the last of U.S. economic aid to Syria despite concern that the action could harm negotiations for a ceasefire in Lebanon.

Although Syria has not been granted any new economic aid since 1981, \$220 million remains to be transmitted for several U.S.-sponsored road building and water projects.

The proposal was offered by Republican Sen. Alfonse D'Amato of New York. It will be considered by the full appropriations committee next week.

The proposal would have to be approved by both the full Senate and House of Representatives and signed by President Reagan to become effective.

"The question is who is shelling our boys. It is about time to demonstrate more than rhetoric to the Syrians," Sen. d'Amato said.

Sen. Daniel Inouye of Hawaii argued that it was important not to destroy all ties with Syria while tensions were high in the Middle East over Syrian involvement in fighting in Lebanon.

But Foreign Operations Subcommittee chairman Robert Kasen told the group: "We ought to cut off those funds and we ought not to deal with the Syrians when they are so closely tied to the Soviets."

The Syrian aid issue was part of a \$12 billion bill to provide economic and military assistance to other countries.

The package will probably be wrapped into a larger stop-gap funding bill to be considered by Congress before the start of the new financial year on Oct. 1.

'And quiet flows the Nile'

KHARTOUM (R) — Sudanese President Jaafar Numeiri emptied a can of beer into the Nile Friday signalling the start of an operation to throw away every drop of alcohol in Khartoum.

At the signal, crates, bottles and cans of liquor worth about \$5 million were hurled into the river watched by doleful hotel residents sipping fruit juice on hotel balconies.

The alcohol was collected by soldiers and police from bars and liquor shops Thursday following a new law enforcing the Islamic prohibition on strong drink.

Muslim and Christian clergymen and government officials looked on approvingly as crates, after crate, of liquor splashed into the Nile. Muslim spectators uttered cries of joy.

It was all part of Mr. Numeiri's programme to return Sudan to strict observance of Islamic law. The ceremony was carried out at three different sites in the capital, with armed police guarding the stockpiles to make sure that all the drink ended up in the river.

Bars and liquor stores were closed 13 days ago, even in hotels and foreign community clubs. The new law prescribes 40 lashes for anyone caught drinking.

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Rage and guilt
"Right now I'm going through rage and then some guilt. It's difficult for me when I hear it on the radio. It makes me question if the American people are really informed about what is going on here," she said.
A former staffer for the American branch of the Oxfam aid organisation, she said she came to

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| 20:00 News in Arabic | |
| 20:30 Arabic Series | |
| 21:40 Local Programme | |
| 22:15 Arabic Play | |
| 22:30 News in Arabic | |
| 23:10 Play Continued | |
| FOREIGN CHANNEL | |
| 18:00 French Programme | |
| 19:00 News in French | |
| 19:30 News in Hebrew | |
| 20:30 M.A.S.H. | |
| 21:00 Documentary: Nature Watch | |
| 21:30 Saturday Variety Show | |
| 22:00 News in English | |
| 23:30 Play of the Month: King Lear - Part I | |
| RADIO JORDAN | |
| 855 KHz. AM & 99 MHz. FM | |
| A party on 95.1 KHz. SW | |
| 07:00 Morning Show | |
| 07:30 News Bulletin | |
| 07:35 Morning Show | |
| 10:00 News Summary | |
| 10:05 Oriental Foods | |
| 10:15 Morning Show | |
| 11:00 News Bulletin | |
| 11:05 Pop Session | |
| 12:00 News Summary | |
| 12:05 Pop Session | |
| 13:00 News Summary | |
| 13:05 Catch the Words | |
| 14:00 News Bulletin | |
| 14:15 Instruments | |
| 14:30 Centres of Culture | |
| 15:00 Concert Hour | |
| 16:00 News Summary | |
| 16:05 Instruments | |
| 17:00 Jordan Weekly | |
| 17:30 Special Feature | |
| 18:00 News Summary | |
| 18:05 Top Twenty | |
| 19:00 News | |
| 19:30 Date with a Star | |
| 20:00 Jibril Jibril | |
| 20:30 The Young Sound | |
| 21:05 Country Music | |
| 22:00 Play of the Week | |

| WHAT'S GOING ON | |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--|
| TODAY'S EVENTS | |
| FILM | |
| "Le Boucher" (subtitled in Arabic) at the French Cultural Centre at 7:30 p.m. | |
| CULTURAL CENTRES | |
| Royal Cultural Centre - Tel: 661026/7 | |
| American Centre - 44371 | |
| American Cultural Library - 41520 | |
| British Council - 36157-8 | |
| French Cultural Centre - 37009 | |
| Goethe Institute - 41993 | |
| Soviet Cultural Centre - 44203 | |
| Spanish Cultural Centre - 34049 | |
| Turkish Cultural Centre - 39777 | |
| Haya Arts Centre - 665195 | |
| Hansen Youth City - 667181 | |
| V.W.C.A. - 51793 | |
| W.M.A.A. - 664251 | |
| Amman Municipal Library - 36111 | |
| University of Jordan Library - 843575 | |
| MUSEUMS | |
| Folklore Museum: Jewelry and costumes over 100 years old. Also mosaics from Madaba and Jerash (4th to 19th centuries). The Roman Theatre, Amman. Opening hours: 9.00 a.m. - 5 p.m. Jordan Round. Tel. 51760. | |
| Jordan Archaeological Museum: Has an excellent collection of the antiquities of Jordan. Jabal Al Qal'a (Citadel Hill). Opening hours: 9.00 a.m. - 5.00 p.m. (Fridays and official holidays 10.00 a.m. - 4.00 p.m.). Closed Tuesdays. | |
| Jordan National Gallery: Contains a collection of paintings, ceramics, and sculpture by contemporary Islamic artists from most of the Muslim countries and a collection of paintings by 19th Century oriental artists. Muzaynah, Jabal Luwadhah. Opening hours: 10.00 a.m. - 3.30 p.m. and 3.30 p.m. - 6.00 p.m. Closed Tuesdays. Tel. 30128. | |
| Military Museum: Collection of military memorabilia dating from the Arab Revolt of 1916. Sports City, Amman. Opening hours 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Closed | |
| CHURCHES | |
| St. Joseph Church (Roman Catholic) Jabal Amman. Tel. 24590. | |
| Church of the Annunciation (Roman Catholic) Jabal Luwadhah, 374-0. | |
| De la Salle Church (Roman Catholic) Jabal Amman. 661757. | |
| Church of the Ascension (Greek Orthodox) Amman. 661757. | |
| Anglican Church (Church of the Redeemer) Jabal Amman. 41559. | |
| Armenian Catholic Church Ashrafieh. 71331. | |
| Armenian Orthodox Church Ashrafieh. 75291. | |
| St. Ephraim Church (Syrian Orthodox) Ashrafieh. 71751. | |
| Amman International Church (Inter-denominational): meets at Southern Baptist School in Shmeisani, 663249. | |
| PRAYER TIMES | |
| 06:03 (Sunrise) Fajr | |
| 05:26 (Sunrise) Shurub | |
| 11:29 Dhuhir | |
| 14:56 Asr | |
| 17:29 Maghreb | |
| 18:53 'Isha | |

| FOR THE TRAVELLER | |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------|
| AMMAN AIRPORT | |
| This information is supplied by Alia Information department at the Queen Alia International Airport, tel. (08) 53250, 53070, 53082, 53171, where it should always be verified. | |
| ARRIVALS | |
| 06:25 Cairo (EA) | |
| 07:15 Kuwait (KAC) | |
| 08:45 Cairo (RJ) | |
| 09:05 Agaba (RJ) | |
| 09:15 Abu Dhabi (RJ) | |
| 09:15 Jeddah (RJ) | |
| 09:25 Karachi, Dubai (RJ) | |
| 09:40 Doha (RJ) | |
| 09:45 Kuwait (RJ) | |
| 10:00 Doha, Bahrain (RJ) | |
| 10:35 Muscat, Dubai, Abu Dhabi, Bahrain (GA) | |
| 11:30 Larnaka (Cyprus Air) | |
| 12:25 Cairo (EA) | |
| 14:00 Kuwait (KAC) | |
| 15:20 Cairo (EA) | |
| 16:25 Copenhagen, Athens (SR) | |
| 16:30 Rio de Janeiro, Lisbon (IA) | |
| 16:55 Paris (AF) | |
| 17:15 Frankfurt, Geneva (RJ) | |
| 17:15 New York, Amsterdam (RJ) | |
| 17:25 Istanbul (RJ) | |
| 17:45 Rhodes (RJ) | |
| 17:45 Madrid, Tripoli (RJ) | |
| 17:45 Athens (GA) | |
| 18:00 Copenhagen, Athens (RJ) | |
| 18:05 Rome (Alitalia) | |
| 18:10 Tunis, Casablanca (RJ) | |
| 18:30 Cairo (RJ) | |
| 19:40 Frankfurt (LH) | |
| 19:55 Cairo (EA) | |
| 20:30 Athens (Olympic) | |
| 06:25 Cairo (EA) | |
| 06:30 Cairo (RJ) | |
| 09:45 Baghdad (RJ) | |
| DEPARTURES | |
| 07:00 Agaba (RJ) | |
| 07:45 Larnaka, Paris (EF) | |
| 07:55 Cairo (EA) | |
| 08:15 Kuwait (KAC) | |
| 08:30 Athens (Olympic) | |
| 11:00 Rhodes (RJ) | |
| 11:00 Vienna, New York (RJ) | |
| 11:15 Tunis, Casablanca (RJ) | |
| 11:20 Athens (OA) | |
| 11:30 Cairo (RJ) | |
| 11:30 Istanbul (RJ) | |
| 12:00 Paris, London (RJ) | |
| 12:35 Larnaka (Cyprus Air) | |
| 13:00 Kuwait (RJ) | |
| 13:00 Cairo (EA) | |
| 13:40 Baghdad (IA) | |
| 15:30 Bahrain, Abu Dhabi, Dubai, Muscat (GA) | |
| 19:00 Kuwait (RJ) | |
| 19:15 Doha (RJ) | |
| 19:40 Jeddah (RJ) | |
| 20:00 Cairo (RJ) | |
| 20:30 Abu Dhabi, Dubai (RJ) | |
| 20:55 Cairo (EA) | |
| 01:25 Cairo (EA) | |
| 04:45 Cairo (RJ) | |
| MONEY EXCHANGE | |
| Local sell/buy rates in fils | |
| Belgian franc | 68.3/ 68.7 |
| Dutch guilder | 123.4/ 124.1 |
| Egyptian pound | 327/ 330 |
| French franc | 45.6/ 45.9 |
| Irqi dinar | 478/ 475 |
| Italian lire (for 100) | 23.1/ 23.9 |
| Japanese yen (for 100) | 151.9/ 152.8 |
| Kuwaiti dinar | 1262.6/ 1267.3 |
| Lebanese lire | 74.3/ 75.3 |
| Omani rial | 1062/ 1067.3 |
| Qatari rial | 109/ 101.5 |
| Saudi riyal | 105.9/ 106.3 |
| Swedish crown | 46.7/ 47.4 |
| Swiss franc | 170.4/ 171.4 |
| Syrian lire | 62.6/ 63.5 |
| U.A.E. dirham | 106.3/ 101.5 |
| U.K. sterling pound | 553.5/ 556.8 |
| U.S. dollar | 369/ 370 |
| W. German mark | 139/ 138.8 |
| WEATHER | |
| Bulletin supplied by the Department of Meteorology. | |
| It will be fair, with some low clouds. Light and variable winds will change to southwesterly moderate. In Agaba, winds will be northerly moderate and sea calm. | |
| Low/high temperature in deg.C | |
| Amman | 15/25 |
| Agaba | 21/33 |
| Deserts | 16/33 |
| Jordan Valley | 21/33 |
| Yesterday's high temperatures: Amman 25, Agaba 32. Humidity reading: Amman 42 per cent. Agaba 37 per cent. | |

| USEFUL TELEPHONE NOS. | |
|------------------------------|-------------------|
| EMERGENCIES | |
| Ambulance | 193, 75111 |
| Fire, police | 199 |
| Blood bank | 75121 |
| Civil Defence rescue | 661111 |
| Police headquarters | 192, 2111, 2200-3 |
| Police rescue | 192, 2111, 77777 |
| Police headquarters | 39141 |
| Traffic police | 56390-1 |
| Electric Power Co. | 36361-2 |
| Municipal water service | 71125-6 |
| Queen Alia Int. Airport | (08) 53333 |
| HOSPITALS | |
| Hussein Medical Centre | 813813-32 |
| Khalid Maternity, J. Amman | 44281-4 |
| Al-Hilal Maternity, J. Amman | 42441 |
| Jabal Amman Maternity | 42362 |
| Malinas, J. Amman | 36140 |
| Palestine, Shmeisani | 664171-4 |
| Shmeisani Hospital | 669131 |
| University Hospital | 845845 |
| Dar Al-Shifa, J. Hussein | 667158 |
| Al-Mustashfi Hospital | 66722-9 |
| The Islamic, Abdali | 665292 |
| Al-Ahli, Abdali | 664164 |
| Al-Basrah, J. Ashrafieh | 77101-3 |
| Al-Basrah, J. Ashrafieh | 75111 |
| Army, Marka | 91611 |
| DRUGS | |
| Dr. Zein Zaghloul | 38591 |
| Nairukh pharmacy | 23672 |
| Salameh pharmacy | 94779 |
| Jabal Al Naser pharmacy | 56728 |
| Salim pharmacy | 14601 |
| Railway taxi | 37249 |

مكتبة امين لاصل

Kuwait aluminium meeting to begin

AMMAN (Petra) — The Arab Organisation for Standardisation and Metrology is to participate in the first Arab Conference on Aluminium (ARABAL) scheduled to open in Kuwait Saturday.

The conference aims to further the prospects for all Arab companies specialised in the production, marketing and use of aluminium to expand their activities in the Arab World. The conference will also discuss issues

related to the various stages of aluminium production.

Exposers of equipment and products will also have an opportunity at the conference to display their products and discuss future plans.

Valencia mayor to visit

AMMAN (Petra) — Mayor of the Spanish city of Valencia, Ricardo Casado, will visit Amman in mid October at the invitation of Amman Municipality. Mr. Casado will discuss with Amman Mayor,

Abdul Ra'ouf Al Rawabdeh and senior officials of the Amman Municipality ways of promoting cooperation between Amman and Valencia in various fields of mutual interest.

Sept. 25 bridge rules altered

AMMAN (Petra) — People wishing to go to the occupied West Bank on Sept. 25 may not proceed to the bridges unless their passports have already been received

in advance by the bridge authorities. Public Security Department spokesman announced Friday.

Co-op bank

slated for Irbid

IRBID (Petra) — A cooperative bank will be opened in Irbid next month to provide loans for cooperative and agricultural societies in the Irbid District, according to cooperative office Director Jamal Obaidat.

The bank will provide financial loans for 53 cooperative and agricultural societies that include 8,000 members as well as providing financial loans for the commercial sector.



Foreign Minister Marwan Al Qasbi Thursday receives a copy of the credentials of the newly-

appointed Spanish Ambassador to Jordan, Emilio Vences Del Valle (Petra photo)

Health seminar to open today

AMMAN (Petra) — An international seminar on the development of psychological health programmes is scheduled to be opened here Saturday by Health Minister Zuhair Vilhas at the Yarmouk University Liaison Office.

The five-day meeting, organised by the World Health Organisation (WHO), aims at reviewing WHO's psychological health programme and submitting recommendations for their future application, as well as exchanging views and information on expanding psychological health care.

Taking part in the meeting will be delegates from the United Arab Emirates, North Yemen, South Yemen, Bahrain, Djibouti, Iraq, Kuwait, Lebanon, Oman, Pakistan, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Somalia, Sudan, Syria, Tunisia, Cyprus and Jordan.

Meanwhile, a World Health Organisation (WHO) specialist, Dr. John Watt, arrived here Friday to supervise the execution of a field study on tetanus and poliomyelitis in Jordan.

The study aims at assessing the extent of the diseases both before and after the implementation of the national vaccination programme which has been operating since 1970.

The study will be carried out by a Health Ministry team who will visit selected families in various parts of Jordan.

Conference to highlight contribution of Jordanian engineers

By Affiah A. Kaloti
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — A conference on the role of the Jordanian engineer in the country's development is scheduled to take place between Sept. 25 and 28 at the Professional Associations Complex in Amman.

The conference, which will be held under the patronage of His Majesty King Hussein, is being organised by the Jordanian Engineers Association (JEA). The main objective of this, the first Jordanian Engineering Conference to be held in this country's history, "is to introduce the role of the engineer in the process of developing the country," JEA President, Laith Shubeilat said.

In interviews with the Jordan Times, Mr. Shubeilat and JEA Vice-President Rawhi Al Sharif said that the conference aims to highlight the breadth of the work of the engineering profession both to the public and to the engineers themselves.

Mr. Shubeilat said that the engineering body has increased enormously in size and that it is necessary for all engineers "to know about each others' case studies, histories of large projects, the problems they face and the solutions they have undertaken that have contributed to the success of various projects."

Dr. Sharif, who is also the chief of the conference preparatory committee, pointed out that it is worth knowing whose efforts were behind the many developmental projects implemented in the country. He stressed that while all projects need the skills of the various professions in the country, "the engineers have contributed largely to the development of the

country over the past 15 years." Asked about the theme of the conference, they said that it will not be dominated by one theme. It is a general conference for "it pertains to various engineering achievements and not projects of one speciality," they asserted.

They said that the conference will be the start of a series of conferences probably to be held every two years, and which will "gradually result in each conference focusing on specific projects and particular problems of importance at the time of the conference."

Asked about the main projects in which the engineers had actually contributed in, Mr. Shubeilat said that the engineer is making his presence felt in almost all projects in the country. He went on to say that they had contributed to the development of the building sector including the housing projects that are of great benefit to our fellow citizens. They have also contributed to the development of the industry especially as "we have many sophisticated industries such as the cement and phosphate factories and the recently introduced potash industry."

He added that the engineers also contributed to the chemical industries such as the establishment of the fertiliser factories, as well as transport projects such as roads. "Engineers have also contributed greatly to the creation of the Aqaba port and the new Queen Alia International Airport," he said. He also added that they have contributed to the development of the Jordan Valley as well as in helping to build the various dams in the Kingdom.

Commenting on the engineers' contribution in these projects, Dr. Sharif said that all these projects should be designed and supervised

by engineers, and constructed by contractors. He pointed out that contractors are either engineers themselves or have engineers working with them, and from this point of view we can appreciate the wide role of engineers in the development of the country.

Asked about the standard of engineers in the country, Mr. Shubeilat said that the first challenge in the past was to have enough engineers. Now that we have 10,000 engineers, half of which working abroad, "our challenge is to have more qualified and specialised engineers."

Mr. Shubeilat stressed that it is time for the Jordanian engineers to play the role at present being occupied by foreigners in the country. He added that in this era "we are developing our own bi-laws, instructions and policies which are aimed at raising the standard of the practicing engineers."

In the past, he explained, the engineer was considered the "Jack-of-all-trades," for he was expected to know all other works that go along with his job, such as office management, accounting and budgeting, and hence, was never free to practice his speciality continuously.

Now, he pointed out, young engineers work in one line and therefore have more time to practice their speciality.

On the same subject, Dr. Sharif said that "there is one weakness in the engineer's contribution at the moment, that is that they are moving horizontally and not vertically." He went on to explain that most engineers are performing the same functions while leaving the highly specialised work to foreign engineers, consulting firms and sometimes even to foreign contracting firms.

This, Dr. Sharif stressed, is due to the weak professional structure, and we hope that engineers will start moving vertically by specialising in one line and tackling work of a qualitatively higher nature.

Asked if the 5,000 engineers working abroad hamper the development process in the country, Mr. Shubeilat said that those Jordanian engineers who are exposed to more specialised and advanced ways will be, in the long run, an asset to Jordan.

"They will come back with increased knowhow and will thus be able to take a leading in the firms, companies and industries," Dr. Sharif, disagreeing with Mr. Shubeilat's conception of the overseas engineers' future in Jordan said that they would be in a complementary status rather than in a leading one.

He added that the amalgamation of the local engineers with their counterparts who have been working abroad will boost development due to the cross-pollination of experiences.

Regarding future plans to invite overseas engineers to participate in such conferences, Dr. Sharif said that plans for the conference were to show the engineers' contribution in the development of Jordan in particular and in the Arab region in general.

But, he said, since it is the first conference it was deemed better to conduct it on a local level. "In future we hope to enlarge the participation to include Jordanian engineers abroad."

There will be an audience of 500 at the opening session including senior Jordanian officials from interested ministries, directors of companies and consulting firms and engineers from

the governmental as well as the private sector.

Thirty speakers will address around 150 engineers in nine sessions which will each be followed by discussions.

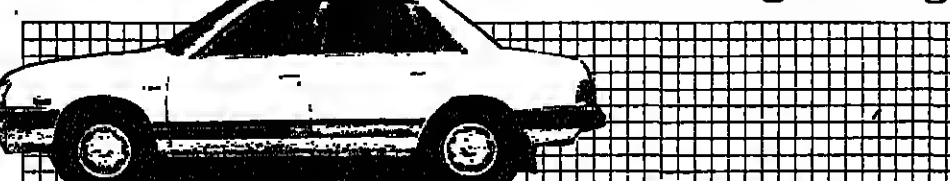


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ARABIC FOR SPEAKERS OF OTHER LANGUAGES

The Language Center at the University of Jordan announces that courses in Modern Standard Arabic for Speakers of Other Languages will commence on September 24 and will last for 16 weeks. Two programmes will be offered

1. The intensive programme in which classes meet in the morning for 20 hours per week, Saturday - Wednesday. The fee for these courses is JD 100 per term.

2. The regular programme in which classes meet 6 hours per week (5:30 - 7:10 Saturday, Monday, and Wednesday). The fee for these courses is JD 35 per term.

Those interested please call at the Language Centre for registration between Sept. 12 and 28, 1983. Working hours are 8:00 - 1:00 and 2:00 - 5:00, Saturday - Wednesday

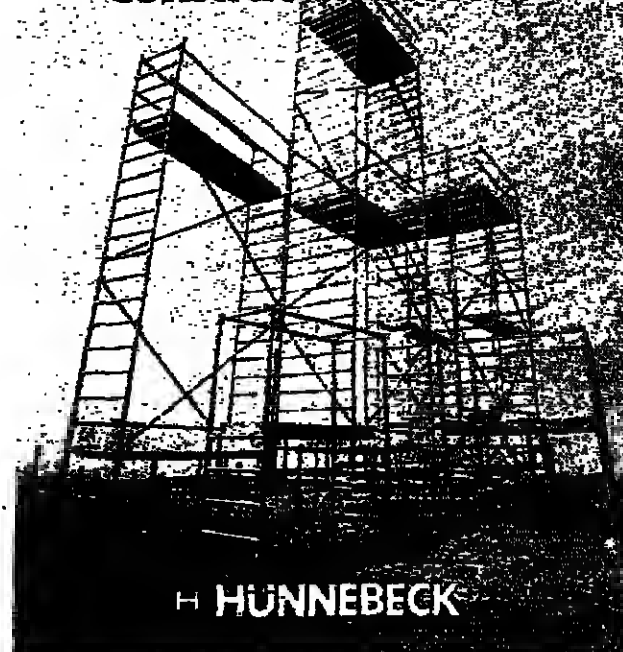
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ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

For Friday

Al Ra'i: More oil in the fire

SOME AMERICAN observers see that President Reagan has now started his presidential campaign using warships, fighters and the Marines in Lebanon. Former U.S. National Security advisor Zbigniew Brzezinski thinks military U.S. involvement in the Lebanese war is an implementation of Gen. Sharon's plan to get the Americans entangled in the Lebanese war game.

Some American newspapers compared the present U.S. stance in Lebanon with that which made the Americans pay a lot to Vietnam. They expressed concern that the Vietnam experience is about to be repeated by the Americans in Lebanon.

What is noteworthy in all such comments and predictions is that none of them see that the U.S. way in Lebanon could lead to a peaceful settlement. They all agree that fleets that are herded in the Lebanese Mediterranean vicinity, the bombing and shelling of targets in the Lebanese mountainside and F15s raiding such targets cannot make peace but can only pour more oil on the raging Lebanese fire.

What is more interesting still is President Reagan's remarks to the effect that what is happening in Lebanon is part of the East-West conflict, which obviously indicates the president's intention to escalate American involvement and whip European public opinion into supporting his moves.

The views and warnings of American commentators, writers and politicians are a sufficient reply to the U.S. president's argument, but it is hard to predict how effective the impact on his decisions can be. Nonetheless, we believe that the U.S. walk in the Lebanese moving sands will have no less dangerous consequences than those the Americans had suffered in Vietnam.

Sawt Al Shaab: Unity above all

THE STATEMENT issued by Lebanese political and religious leaders of the Muslim groupings in Lebanon is a hopeful sign that a Lebanese awakening capable of cognising the nature of the crisis and its dimensions is at hand.

The declaration of principles upon which a Lebanese settlement should be based is all-embracing of Lebanese national necessities, and takes into account the long-standing imperatives of Lebanon's unity, independence and Arab identity, which have been the very basis of Lebanon's evolution and legitimacy at the international level. The statement also calls for the guarantee of parliamentary democracy, public freedoms and political rights for all to be based on the principle of justice and equal rights for all Lebanese.

This declaration, though it is pronounced by the Muslim leadership only, is a genuine expression of the Lebanese people's yearnings for a balanced solution to the national crisis through free dialogue and responsible exchange of views. It is also a criterion by which all Lebanese concerned parties' intentions and standings can be measured.

The conspiracy against Lebanon takes tacticalism for a mask behind which it hides intentions of working for partition, hegemony and control of Lebanon. Through using its agents and allies in Lebanon, Zionism aims at realising its expansionist ambitions. Hence, it is the integrity of Lebanese territory and repulsion of non-Lebanese national affiliation that should be given priority over narrow factional interests and concerns.

Our concern for the well-being and safety of Lebanon is the main reason for our support for the Islamic leadership declaration, and by that we express Jordan's concern for the integrity of the Lebanese homeland and the unity of the Lebanese people.

For Thursday

Al Ra'i: Shamir's meaningless gesture

ISRAEL'S PREMIER designate Yitzhak Shamir Wednesday stated that he will not offer military assistance to the U.S. forces in Lebanon. This statement of course does not mean that the Israelis are absolved of their criminal acts in Lebanon as it does not vindicate the Americans from their collusion with the Israelis.

In fact, Israel had provided the Americans with the necessary help for executing their objectives of imposing hegemony in the Middle East region and in destroying Lebanon. Israel has in fact paved the ground for the current American intervention in Lebanon. In return the U.S. had been supplying Israel with financial and military assistance to kill Arabs; it has supported Israel at the U.N. Security Council to abort any resolutions that should have condemned Israeli actions in the occupied territories.

Thus one can clearly see the unholy partnership between the U.S. and Israel in partitioning Lebanon and in terrorising the Arabs. Shamir's pledge not to offer help to the U.S. Marines in Lebanon is nothing but a mockery of Arab feelings, because such a pledge does not in fact change anything in the situation and the role of the two partners in aggression, and in the imposition of hegemony on the Arab Nation. The U.S. and Israeli partners are the only beneficiaries of the Lebanese crisis, but the quagmire in which both are bogged could well turn out as a weapon directed to themselves and their interests in the long run.

Al Dustour: Democratic dialogue necessary

A NUMBER of trivial routine procedures stand in the way of achieving a national reconciliation among the warring factions in Lebanon. However, all parties to the conflict agree that such a reconciliation is necessary for re-establishing peace in Lebanon despite their acrimonious exchanges.

These procedures could prolong the war and increase the bloodshed. Lebanon cannot tolerate the dominance of one party over all others because this is unrealistic and unacceptable. Amidst the fighting, there emerges a hope for a peaceful settlement because of a unanimous Lebanese consensus over the need for ending the conflict as soon as possible by peaceful means.

No doubt the U.S. military intervention in Lebanon's fighting is bound to complicate the situation and make a settlement out of reach at present. This intervention also is responsible for any delay in a dialogue among the parties to a settlement and tends to increase the stubbornness of some parties and their intransigence towards the achievement of a settlement. Democratic dialogue between the conflicting parties is indeed the only means of resolving the issue.

Iran-Iraq war: Three years of suffering, economic waste

By John Owen-Davies
Reuter

BAHRAIN — The Iran-Iraq war between two oil-producing giants at the head of the Gulf is entering its fourth year with no immediate signs of peace despite repeated international calls for a ceasefire.

The two Muslim countries have pledged to continue the war despite mounting casualties in air, sea and land battles, some reminiscent of the hand-to-hand combat in World War I, until they achieve their widely differing objectives.

Iranian leaders say Iran is determined to fight on until the Iraqi government collapses, while Iraq believes peace might come only after Iran's leader, Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini, dies.

Since Iraq launched lightning strikes into Iranian territory on Sept. 22 and 23, 1980, reports on the fighting have come mainly from terse and often conflicting statements issued in Tehran and Baghdad.

In a world used to reading or seeing on film blow-by-blow accounts of major conflicts, the Gulf war has failed to fuel the public imagination, partly because there is no overt superpower involvement and firm information is scarce.

But the war has accounted for several hundred thousand casualties and several thousand Iraqis and Iranians have been taken prisoner.

And it could have a major impact

on the lives of millions of people in countries dependent on oil.

Iran has threatened to seal off the Gulf, through which most of the world's oil passes, if Iraq attacks its vital oil installations with French-made Exocet missiles carried by super-Etendard planes that France plans to supply to Iraq.

Apart from causing the loss of millions of barrels of oil daily, such action could result in intervention by the United States, which has pledged to preserve safe passage in the Gulf.

The war has had a major impact on Middle East politics, especially in other Gulf states, where Western diplomats have called it "the darkest cloud on the horizon."

Members of the two-year-old Gulf Cooperation Council, formed as a result of Iran's revolution in 1979 and the Soviet military intervention in Afghanistan later that year, generally support Iraq.

The council states: Saudi Arabia, Oman, Bahrain, Qatar, the United Arab Emirates and Kuwait are worried by the possible spread of Iran's brand of "revolutionary" Islam.

On the other hand, Syria, a key figure in Middle East politics, has aligned itself firmly with Iran.

Although neither Washington nor Moscow have been involved directly in the fighting, both are watching developments together with events elsewhere in the Middle East.

Western diplomats in the Gulf say the war has hit the pockets of

the Gulf countries through its impact on trade and the cost of supporting Iraq after the cut in oil prices last March.

Efforts to negotiate a political settlement by the United Nations, the Organisation of Islamic Conference and the Non-Aligned Movement have all failed.

Iraq dates the war from Sept. 4, 1980, when Iran launched air and ground attacks on Iraqi border towns and positions.

On Sept. 17 that year, after months of rising tension, Iraqi President Saddam Hussein tore up a 1975 treaty with Iran and proclaimed full sovereignty over the Shatt Al-Arab waterway between the two countries.

Tehran claims the war started on Sept. 22, when the Iraqi air force raided military targets deep in Iran and Iraqi troops "invaded" its territory.

On Oct. 24, 1980, Iraqi forces captured the Iranian port of Khorramshahr, near the city of Abadan, after weeks of house-to-house fighting.

In Jan. 1981, the first big Iranian counter-offensive was defeated by Iraq in a tank battle in Iran's oil-rich Khuzestan province.

The siege of Abadan was lifted eight months later in a third Iranian counter-offensive. Two other Iranian campaigns, in November and December, also regained some lost territory.

Iraq launched a major attack in Khuzestan in March 1982 and said

later it had recaptured 2,000 square kilometres of its land.

In April, 1982, Syria closed its border with Iraq and shut down a pipeline carrying Iraqi oil across its territory.

In May, Iran said it had recaptured Khorramshahr and demanded a change in Iraqi leadership as a condition for ending the war, adding it had no designs on Iraqi territory.

On June 30, Iraq bombed Iranian oil installations as a reprisal for the shelling of its Gulf oil port of Basra.

On June 10, Iraq declared a unilateral ceasefire, but said later its forces had responded to Iranian firing. Baghdad then said its troops would complete a pullback from Iranian territory.

The war remained relatively stagnant until April this year, when Iran said it had launched a major offensive in the southern sector near Misan. Iraq said the offensive was repelled.

On July 23, Iran claimed to have launched a cross-border thrust into the Kurdish mountains of northern Iraq, and to have captured a limited amount of land and some strategic heights. A week later it launched another attack in the central sector near Mehran.

In the latest appeal for peace made on behalf of Islamic states last week, Guinean President Ahmed Sekou Toure called on both sides to see that "the spirit of solidarity and fraternity wins over the spirit of war."



Vital clues on lost airliner still missing

By Arlik Bachar
Reuter

LONDON — The United States calls it a deliberate massacre, but Western military experts say the downing of South Korea's jumbo jet may have been a case of incompetence.

Vital clues are still missing from the riddle of the Korean airliner shot down over the Sea of Japan on Sept. 1.

But Western military experts say facts published by both Washington and the Soviet Union so far could point out the way Soviet defences operate.

"The way the Soviets handled the lost airliner strongly hints that it involved panic reaction," one expert said.

Analysts say that Soviet accounts of the incident make it difficult to answer one of the key questions in the affair: Did Soviet pilots know what they were blasting out of the sky?

Moscow, which took six days to admit its aircraft had shot the airliner down, offered two basic explanations.

One suggested that pilots which intercepted the airliner at night mistook it for a U.S.-RC-135 reconnaissance plane, a modified version of the Boeing 707.

But then Moscow said the civilian airliner was engaged in espionage for the U.S.

Academic analysts believe the way Soviet air defences tracked the jumbo during the two-and-a-half hours it was in their airspace could cause some concern in the Soviet military.

The plane, on a flight from New York via Anchorage to Seoul, deviated from its course and flew over Kamchatka peninsula, site of sensitive Soviet installations.

A first batch of interceptors was sent up to investigate but did not appear to have come close enough to the intruder to determine its identity.

A second group of fighters, two SU-15's and one Mig-23, was scrambled when the jumbo overflew Sakhalin Island, another top-secret base.

But of the three, only one SU-15 interceptor appears to have established visual contact with the jumbo while the other two continued searching for the target even after it had been hit.

Western military analysts believe the decision on how to handle

the intrusion was taken right up to the Central Air Defence Command in Moscow, having gone through the local group control along the erroneous flight path of the jumbo and the regional headquarters.

"In the middle of the night, it must have involved waking up some officers, each of whom had to be briefed on the situation in a time-consuming process," one said.

"By the time everyone concerned was filled in, there was little time left and a quick decision on how to react had to be made," he added.

Many experts believe Soviet officers did not know for certain what the target was but none was willing to take the chance of letting a hostile intruder get away.

A retired Japanese general said that the Soviet fighters failed to identify the jumbo as a civilian aircraft because of the way they handled the interception.

Taped conversations between interceptors and ground control, released by the U.S., suggest the SU-15 never got closer than two kilometres to the jumbo.

An aviation expert in London said that, even at night, the distinctive jumbo with its unique hump should have been easily recognisable.

But the Soviet interceptor and his ground controllers apparently had a lot on their minds, he said.

Recordings showed that the pilot of the short-range SU-15 was constantly checking the rate his fuel was running out.

Ground control had to make a snap decision, experts say, as the jumbo was only a short flying time from the sanctuary of international airspace.

One academic analyst said: "What it boiled down to for the ground command was whether to risk failure to follow the strict line of orders on dealing with such an emergency, or shoot down an unidentified plane which did not respond to warnings and may or may not be innocent."

The U.S. now agrees that the Soviet interceptor fired warning shots along the flight path of the jumbo before shooting it down with two air-to-air missiles.

Aviation experts who have followed the affair closely say the Korean crew could easily have missed the warning bursts which



LETTERS

New sea routes did it

To the Editor:

I read with great interest Franz Schurmann's weekly column in the Jordan Times daily newspaper which shows a great deal of wisdom and experience. In one of his articles Dr. Schurmann expressed amazement at the strength and continuity of Islamic civilisation in the 13th century in spite of the destruction it suffered at the hands of the Tartars. I have an opinion on the subject which I am trying to relay to you.

The materialistic base of the old Islamic civilisation was the surplus wealth emanating from distant commerce accumulating from the exchange of goods, spices and materials between the civilisations and countries of the time. The peoples of the Arabian Peninsula and the Southern Mediterranean basins controlled and benefited greatly from such exchange. The surplus wealth was responsible for financing the Islamic states with all their necessary institutions while the wealth emanating from agriculture in the Nile and Euphrates valleys was not enough to sustain such states. Thus the Islamic civilisation continued in spite of the Tartar and Crusader invasions during the 12th and 13th centuries.

The Islamic civilisation started to collapse right after the discovery by European powers of the sea routes to the East avoiding the Mediterranean and causing the Muslims to lose their profitable business. The Ottoman Empire, which rose after the loss of the materialistic foundation did not make much of a contribution to the Islamic civilisation.

I believe today that the Islamic civilisation will be reborn out of the new surplus wealth resulting from oil. The new Islamic civilisation we refer to is one of unity and independence in which all Muslim peoples are united under a central government and in one multinational state. It will have its economic, financial and cultural independence, a global power dealing with all nations of equal footing and giving to the world more than it takes from it.

Unfortunately, we live today in a state of economic and cultural as well as political dependence upon the Western civilisation and its powers especially the U.S. We feel the frustrations brought about by Israeli hegemony. Our countries today are much more like China during the last century; and the beginning of this century: divided, weak and dependent as well as partly occupied. We feel that the resurgence of our countries will have to be achieved by internal forces of change which will change the tragic situation in which we are living and which is not good for anybody.

Hani Saudi,
P.O. Box 1660,
Amman, Jordan

Currency shortage too

To the Editor:

I was delighted to receive a letter from Hani Saudi (above) and was equally happy that he found one of my columns interesting.

I read with much interest his remark that Islamic civilisation started to collapse right after the sea routes were discovered by the Europeans which by-passed the Mediterranean. I think that is correct but I would like to suggest other possibilities. During the mid-1300's (the time when Ibn Khaldun was born), a severe currency shortage began to afflict not just Italy where European economies were most highly developed but the Islamic world as well. Silver virtually disappeared. There was plenty of gold but gold was used largely for external transactions. Silver was the local currency par excellence. There are reasons to think that much of this silver was sucked all the way to China. In the mid-1300's, China underwent a phase of severe economic nationalism. It cut itself off from just about all foreign trade. However, internal commerce in China flourished (after all China was still the world's most populous nation). The shortage of local currencies led to severe deflations as credit dried up, jobs were lost, and, especially, urban populations went way down.

It was around this time that the Ottoman Empire conquered much of the Muslim world. Indeed the Ottoman Empire was a tolerant but also sluggish entity. It did nothing to reverse this process of economic decline in the Islamic world. Cities which once had been brilliant centres of Islamic civilisation often became villages or headquarters of a Turkish vilayet or sanjak. On the other hand, Europe responded to the same situation in a different way: it entered a period of bloody wars in the 14th and 15th centuries which got even bloodier in the 1500's. And then, as you say, they sought the new searoutes so they could capture new wealth which the Spaniards especially found in Mexico and Peru.

I agree with you that there is a material basis for a new flowering of Islamic civilisation. Still, the Western World has the power to do what China did in the 1400's: Destroy the global monetary system it itself created and so cause great harm to the rest of the world. Still there is a difference. The U.S. now in the late 1900's is dependent on the rest of the world for more and more of its prosperity. China 500 years ago was not! That interdependence makes me optimistic that what happened so long ago cannot be repeated today. It seems to me that the Islamic world is a rising world. It is in a Renaissance stage.

Franz Schurmann,
San Francisco, USA

Ill-advised move

To the Editor:

I would like to state my personal views on Jordan's plans to hold majority share in foreign banks which are summarised by the following nine points.

1. To start with, H.M. King Hussein has consistently emphasised the importance of maintaining a free economy.
2. Such a step would be received badly outside Jordan and dent foreign confidence in the stability of our business environment.
3. It will hinder opportunities for our local banks to open branches outside our country.
4. We do not possess the volume of deposits other rich countries have, to impose a stand on the world market. Our country can at best only be a service centre as we have limited natural resources and our main wealth is our human resource.
5. It may shake public confidence in our economy and kindle fears that the basic nature of the economy is about to change thus precipitating a rush to send local investment abroad.
6. It may distort Jordan's image as being a stable and secure haven for investment.
7. It may reduce the impetus on our local financial institutions to improve themselves as international competition stimulates quality of service as well as improving levels of training and technological innovation.
8. Such a step cannot prevent non-Jordanian investors from being in a majority anyway the use of proxies.
9. The net profit of such banks are not that significant and does not impose a burden on our country. Thus increasing the capital of these banks may be a better step.

I therefore conclude that moves to give foreign banks a controlling Jordanian equity interest would be ill-advised for the good of the country.

Fakhri Bilbeisi,
P.O. Box 2958,
Amman

Ben Bella: Arabs have never been defeatists

By Lima Nabil

Special to the Jordan Times
Ahmad Ben Bella is no more a political figure nor does he seek to be one in his country, Algeria or elsewhere in the Arab World.

But the former Algerian president and freedom fighter under the French rule now acts as a mediator among Arabs with the intention of achieving a reconciliation among brothers and help them fulfil their aspired goals. Among the most important issues on his mind is the Palestine question and the ordeal of the Palestinian people.

At a meeting in Europe, I asked Mr. Ben Bella to assess the future of the Palestinians now that they had been badly hit in Lebanon and lately shown signs of disintegration due to dissension among their ranks.

He said: "I don't really worry about the long-term future of the Palestinian revolution but rather about its short-term future. The Palestinians were besieged in Beirut and battered there. I wrote a lengthy article on that occasion in which I outlined the difficult position of the PLO in Beirut where the Palestinians were being attacked from outside, but now they are being assaulted from within. Despite this I think the PLO's future will not be affected or jeopardised. I can only say that the PLO should remain in the Lebanese Bekaa Valley and should continue to defend itself and never withdraw. If it gives up its present positions in Lebanon, the PLO will be dealt a fatal blow."

"I also strongly object to any interference in the PLO's internal affairs by any Arab country, and frankly I don't trust countries which try to interfere in the Palestinian revolution. I wonder what stopped Syria from defending the Palestinians during Israel's invasion of Lebanon. Syria had missed an opportunity of aiding the PLO and therefore, it has no right now to pretend to play the part of protector or guardian to the Palestinians."

"Though I prefer not to involve myself in the internal affairs of the Arab Organisation, yet I feel that my heart is being rended apart by pain because of the events now going on in the region. I hope the PLO's internal disputes will soon end so that the Palestinians can focus their whole attention on their common enemy. I am not a supporter of dissent, but I am for change that should come from within without any outside interference. There should be no Arab guardianship over the Pal-

estian problem," Mr. Ben Bella said.

I asked Mr. Ben Bella: How do you view the PLO decision to stop the dialogue with Jordan?

He said: First of all I would like to express my deep respect and strong admiration for His Majesty King Hussein for his wisdom and courage. I have developed this feeling despite the fact that I have never been to Jordan something which I very much wanted to do — to see the unique unity among the people of both banks. I know King Hussein personally and I never doubt his sincerity and his true endeavours to find a just solution to the Palestine problem. King Hussein is more patriotic and more loyal to the Arab nation's cause than all those who tried to cast doubts on this fact.

Question: In my view, the Palestine issue, democracy, public freedom, social progress, are all major issues that the Arab nation is facing. They are all closely linked together, but some have priority over the others. How do you view the situation?

Answer: I see all these issues connected together, but the major one in my view is: The Arab system of government — its relations with other world systems and the problems and contradictions involved in them. No doubt the Palestine problem is the crux of the existing struggle.

For instance, it is impossible for the Arabs to take a serious step to solve this problem if they remain disunited. Why the Arabs are still disunited, well they are influenced by world contradictory systems. These conflicting systems and regimes constitute a stumbling block in the path of Arab unity. The present Arab regimes and the current Arab political situation only reflect contradictions of world government systems and regimes. Democracy on the other hand is a basic thing, but for democracy to prevail, there should be mutual receptivity on both sides: The ruler and the ruled. Without respect for human beings and their rights — which is fundamental there can be no democracy. When I was president I adopted the 'self-propulsion' system which calls for consultation with the people in matters of government.

As to development, the Arab nation has been applying the Western concept of development — something which we must reject. Does development mean developing material things or the human individual? Does development mean regarding the human being as the basis and the

starting point or does it imply the Western concept of capitalism which regards things only through a Cartesian perspective — something which is totally wrong since the concept of Descartes calls for developing the northern hemisphere at the expense of the south. There can be no real development without complete freedom from internal as well as external influences. We should liberate ourselves from contradictions, the biggest one being that of Israel. Then we should develop ourselves by creating Arab citizens free of all shackles and restrictions. I really think these requirements are all essential and fundamental and represent a course of action for life.

Q: We are witnessing at present a tendency among the Arab population towards surrender and a defeatist attitude under the slogan of peace. There are some people who promote a dangerous notion that the Arab peoples and not the regimes are responsible for this tendency because they feel in need of rest and relaxation and they must end war with Zionism. Do you think that the Arab peoples have really become bored of wars, or are they still capable of adjusting to the situation?

A: This hypothesis is totally wrong because the Arabs have never been a defeatist nation. But rather, they are quite capable of pursuing the march of struggle, and can overcome this difficult stage. Why should the Arabs surrender to Israel? Why didn't the Algerians give in to France which had ruled the country for more than 140 years, and sent against us more than 800,000 soldiers to subjugate our will. Under French colonialism, more than one and a half million French people lived amongst us in Algeria. The Arab peoples have not weakened and I believe they are now in a better position than they had been 30 years ago when most of them were under imperialist rule. Tunisia, Morocco, Syria and Lebanon were, all under French rule and Egypt, Iraq and Jordan were under British imperialist rule, but they had not succumbed to foreign domination. These countries were able to confront and defeat foreign domination arbitrary rule. We should never get tired of the Palestine problem but we must learn to be patient and take a lesson from the long experience of other Arab countries which had to fight against colonialism. The French ruled Algeria for 133 years and Tunisia for 85 years, and afterwards they were gone.



Ahmad Ben Bella

Q: Since you are betting on the Arab peoples — being the only power that is able to change the course of the battle, how can the people be motivated?

A: To say that the Arab peoples are impatient is totally untrue. I bet that the Arab peoples will be able to decide on the battle with Israel. These people are currently passing through a historical stage in determining their own future.

We need to find from amongst us the strong men who refuse to accept subjugation, humiliation and condone treason. I really don't know how we are to proceed from here under the present Arab regimes. The present Arab situation is a direct result of foreign domination and subjugation of people and the Arab individual. All the Arab regimes have contributed to our subduing and this began by striking against Arab liberation movements, and that led to the invasion of Lebanon and eventually to the massacres which happened at Sabra and Shatila camps.

It is time for us to open a new chapter in the history of our struggle. We cannot allow men who were responsible for our defeat in Beirut to plan for a victory. We must find new leaders with a totally new outlook. The outlook of nationalism and Arabism is not enough because we are waging a comprehensive battle. We must rather include Islam, and I myself do not find any contradiction between the two.

We cannot fight an international force with a narrow outlook nor can we defeat a culture with no culture. Therefore I

believe we must start with a new outlook and a new perspective.

Q: The post 1950s era witnessed several coups and revolutionary movements in most Arab states, and this led to the emergence of Arab nationalism in different forms. Yet all these movements have been met with set-backs including that of Nasser's revolution in Egypt and the Algerian revolution. The Egyptian revolution was confronted by a military setback while in other Arab states party dictatorship emerged as the dominant power. How do you explain that?

A: This can be traced to the world's systems that have emerged over 500 years ago. These systems developed gradually and took different forms but mainly that of capitalism which first penetrated primitive regions. Then there came the industrial revolution followed by the colonialism period which, in some cases, caused the total elimination of a certain race like the Red Indians in America and the emergence of slavery. The colonialism era ended when the ruled people restored their land, but had to face the task of drawing up a formula for life. How to live as a consumer non-productive nation.

This task was not tackled either by President Nasser or myself due to our involvement in other pressing problems. We both succeeded in achieving something for our country but unfortunately we did not submit any formula for solving the problem of how to achieve unity among Arab states. Finding this formula was even

more difficult for us than to achieve liberation, and without unity the Arabs can find no common fate. I have to plan a course for my life and find an outlook totally different from the consumer-oriented society which has been inherited from the West and reflects a society full of violence, crime and pollution. All liberation movements could not find a formula to solve this problem and therefore they faced setbacks.

I think we have to sit back a little and contemplate the reasons behind our failure. Our outlook to life did not go beyond Arab region and was not world-wide oriented. We had not matured to a degree allowing us to prepare for the next stages of our development. Our battle therefore entails convincing the people of this fact. It is a long battle and probably a serious one too.

Q: Do you think that the Arab people will have any more confidence in any future revolutionary movement, after they had seen many of them turning in to dictatorships?

A: History proves that peoples were always able to shoulder responsibility for actions they believed were right. The important thing is to convince the people of a new outlook and the need for new leaders, and then they will rise to the occasion. I formulated these views after nearly 45 years experience in struggle.

Q: The Arab World now witnesses a tendency to form regional groups of unity like the Gulf Cooperation Council, the Nile Valley and the North African "Maghreb". What are the motives for the formation of these blocs and

groupings and how do you view them?

A: I support any attempt to form unity among Arab states on condition that it is based on sound principles. I also support all attempts for regional groupings provided they do not imply isolation from the rest of the Arab nation, or envisage the fulfilment of aims that do not serve unity. I do not support these groupings if they are not founded on a solid base.

Unifying 22 Arab states is something very difficult to achieve and would take a very long time to come about. Therefore, I support gradual unity that starts on a small scale because it is the only way of achieving a comprehensive unity.

Q: The United States seems to be the major source of trouble and disunity for the Arabs. How do you envisage future Arab-American relations and what is in your view, the exemplary formula for such relationship?

A: I agree with this view and consider the U.S. and Israel as the first enemy of the Arabs. Israel derives its whole existence from that of the United States. In the light of our struggle against Israel we should define our position vis-à-vis the U.S. In fact I consider America's friends and those close to her as our enemies. This is my own view conceived after long years in government and hard struggle. The Soviet Union is also an enemy, but of a milder nature because Moscow does not stand against our principles, beliefs and objectives. I don't imagine there could ever be any strong relationship between us and the U.S.



Former Algerian President Ahmad Ben Bella talks in Jordan Times reporter Lima Nabil in Europe.

confront constant challenges as we are forced to live in a world dominated by American hegemony. But we must live standing on our feet, and pursue the fight against domination and hegemony. We are in a state of constant challenge with the U.S. and not in harmony with her, and if ever we reach a conclusion that all our cards have fallen in America's hands, then we are finished.

Our relationship with the U.S. should be based on the concept of constant struggle against all attempts aimed at our subjugation and humiliation.

Q: What do you think of Islam as an ideology that can help Arab renaissance, and to what extent?

A: In my view Islam serves as a basis for revolution and culture. The Arabs have tried all other ideologies and they all ended in failure. In Sabra and Shatila we buried everything: Capitalism, Socialism and the Baath ideology along with all Arab and world ideologies. We reached a sole conclusion: That culture should constitute the foundation and starting point for all and everything. Anything else if not linked to culture, leads to failure.

Why shouldn't we benefit from Islam to draw up a formula that can normalise our life and work out programmes that best benefit our government, beliefs and culture. Those who promote plans other than these are Marxists who do not accept Islam as an ideology for life. In my view, the world has not witnessed a greater culture than that which Islam has created. In 700 years Islam has been able to establish a culture which makes itself felt today. This culture was not created for Muslims alone but for the world at large.

I wonder if Marxism would ever be able to give the world a similar culture. History will only judge that. Islam which gave the world such famous names as Ibn Sina, Pharaoh and Khawarizmi, can also give us a formula that can serve as a constitution for our life. We must return to Islam not in a manner advocated by Muslim narrow-minded, extremist groups. We must draw a useful and constructive teachings that conform to the principles of Islam and its true spirit. The Koran is full of wisdom from which we can draw up legislation liable for further development. Islam encourages us to be creative not just importers of ready made technology from the West. If we were not successful in our past endeavours, we still have the future and faithful men are bound to achieve success.

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Applications are invited for the prequalification of tenders for manufacturing, supply and construction of two Micro-Hydro-Electric-Power Plants and a pumping station at North Shouneh Area.

- A- The first project is to construct Hydro-Electric Power Plant at Adasiya to generate power of one Megawatt from water head available from Mukheiba Canal. The tender of this project shall include: Design, manufacturing, supply, installation and all pertaining civil works of the Hydro-Electric Power Plant.
- B- The second project is to construct a pumping station with a capacity of 1.5 cu.m/sec. and a Hydro-Electric Power Plant to generate 0.3 Megawatt at North Shouneh. The tender for this project shall include: Manufacturing, supply, installation and all related civil works for the pumping station and the Hydro-Electric Power Plant.
- The submitted prequalification documents shall include detailed experience of the company in the field of design, manufacturing and installation of hydro-electric plants and pumping stations along with all pertaining civil works.
- Application may be submitted by individual companies and by joint ventures. In cases of joint ventures, the applications for prequalification are to be submitted by the sponsor and shall give detailed information about the members of the joint venture.
- Application for prequalification will be received until Oct. 20th 1983. The present schedule is to make the tender documents available to prequalified contractors on Nov. 30th 1983, to arrange for a site visit by tenderers 30 days later, to open the tenders Jan. 31st 1984 and to award the contract April 30th 1984.

The prequalification documents are to be sent to:-

The President
Jordan Valley Authority
Amman P.O. Box 1970

Dr. Munther Haddadin
President

Australia II, Liberty
prepare for showdown

NEWPORT, Rhode Island (R) — Australia II, now the closest challenger yacht has come to breaking 133 years of U.S. grasp on the America's Cup, has called a day off before Saturday's final battle with the defender Liberty.

Australian skipper John Bertrand took his boat to a crushing victory on Thursday which left everything depending on the last of the seven races.

"It couldn't be better for scriptwriters," he said.

For the U.S. skipper, Dennis Conner, it will be "the race of the century."

On the brink of elimination for the second day in a row, Australia II again recovered from a bad start to rout Liberty on Thursday and square the series at three victories apiece.

The Australian yacht became the first challenger to win three races in an America's Cup final and only the second to beat a U.S. defender twice in a row.

Its three one-sided victories in the last four races made the challenger the favourite to win Saturday and end the unbroken string of U.S. victories since the competition began in 1851.

In an awesome performance of tactical skill and boat speed on Thursday, Australia II beat Liberty by three minutes and 25 seconds, crossing the finish line more than a half-mile ahead.

It was the worst defeat ever inflicted on a U.S. defender, eclipsing by 14 seconds Australia II's rout of Liberty on Sunday.

Conner, whose decision not to cover Australia II on the first legs

of the last two races was regarded as a serious blunder by many yachting experts, said he was "a little concerned" about Saturday's clash.

"But it's going to be exciting to be involved in the race of the century," he said.

"We have a lot of tradition going for us and we have a great crew. Somehow, I feel we'll pull it out."

However, most yachting experts believe the momentum lays with Australia II.

"The momentum is very important," Bertrand told about 300 reporters after Thursday's race on Rhode Island Sound. "We've been improving. And we're learning how to sail against Liberty."

Commenting on Thursday's Australian win, Conner said: "They were a little smarter or they got a little more breeze."

After trailing Liberty across the starting line for the second day in a row, Australia II quickly overtook the defender on the first leg and opened up an insurmountable lead.

Liberty's failure to cover a tack by Australia II about halfway up the first leg — the second straight day that the defender had failed to do so — appeared to enable the challenger to take the lead.

Asked if he were surprised by Conner's decision, Bertrand replied: "Surprised? Yes, I think we were surprised. I guess Dennis was playing wind shifts."

But Conner insisted that he had tried to cover Australia II's tacks. "Every time they tacked, we tacked with them," he said. "They

just got better wind on a shift."

With winds ranging from a moderate 14 knots to a relatively heavy 19 knots, the challenger demonstrated its capability of out-sailing Liberty in both light and heavy air.

Light winds of between 10 and 12 knots — in which the winged-keeled Australia II is supposedly at its best — are forecast for Saturday's final race.

The decision by Alan Bond, the head of the Australian syndicate, to call a lay-day for Friday came as a surprise. Liberty, having suffered two one-sided defeats in a row, had been expected to ask for a day off following Saturday's race, but elected not to do so.

"We decided to call a lay-day so that we could check the boat from stem to stern and give the crew some relaxation," said Bond, who is making his fourth challenge.

Lendl comes from behind to win

SAN FRANCISCO (R) — American Peter Fleming threatened an upset in the Transamerica Tennis Tournament Thursday night when he took the first set in his second round match with Ivan Lendl of Czechoslovakia.

But Lendl, beaten by Jimmy Connors in the final of the U.S. Open earlier this month, preyed on Fleming's errors from then on and went on to earn a quarter-final meeting with unseeded American Fritz Buehning.

After his 3-6, 6-3, 6-4 win Lendl said: "There was nothing I could do but wait for him to start making mistakes, which he wasn't

Lotus pair surprise challengers
for Brands Hatch Grand Prix

BRANDS HATCH, England (R) — Lotus teammates Elio de Angelis of Italy and Nigel Mansell of Britain upset the form book by setting the two fastest times in opening practice for Sunday's Grand Prix of Europe here on Friday.

World Championship challengers Alain Prost and Rene Arnoux of France and Brazilian Nelson Piquet were expected to head the charge for grid positions but they were forced to make way for two drivers with only one Grand Prix win between them.

Piquet gave a spectacular performance in his Brabham in a vain attempt to beat the Lotus duo but had to be content with the third best time.

Title-leader Prost was next best in his Renault while Arnoux finished an unaccustomed seventh in his Ferrari.

It was undoubtedly the best performance by the British-Lotus team since they fitted turbocharged Renault engines to their cars early in the season.

De Angelis, whose first and only Grand Prix success was in Austria last year, shot round the 2.61-km hillside circuit in one minute 12.342 seconds near the end of the session.

He said: "I did it with an engine misfire which can be easily fixed so I am confident of improving tomorrow."

Mansell, no better than third in 41 races, clocked a pacesetter 1:12.623 until de Angelis improved it.

Race favourite Piquet, three points behind Arnoux and five adrift of Prost with only the South

African Grand Prix remaining after Sunday, thrilled the crowd with a display of sideways driving. But his time of 1:12.724 was not good enough on the day.

Prost went round in a fourth-best 1:13.342 and can also expect to improve if the fine weather holds for Saturday's final hour-long session.

Arnoux's initial 1:13.596 kept him at the front for a time but Italian Riccardo Patrese and American Eddie Cheever also went faster later on and he has much work to do to improve from seventh.

Frenchman Patrick Tambay, the outsider in the chase for the world crown, experienced numerous problems with his Ferrari.

China's Zhu breaks own
high jump world record

PEKING (R) — China's Zhu Jianhua broke his own men's world high jump record when he cleared 2.38 metres at the fifth Chinese National Games in Shanghai on Thursday, the New China News Agency reported.

The 21-year-old cleared the world record height, which was one centimetre higher than the old record he set in Peking on June 11, at his second attempt after clearing 2.26, 2.31 and 2.34 metres, the agency said.

The performance brought him nearer to his stated aim of breaking the 2.40-metre mark.

Zhu put up a disappointing performance during last month's

World Athletics Championships in Helsinki, managing only a bronze medal. "I was not on my best form then," he said.

The 40,000 spectators waited expectantly as their favourite, began his attempt on the record, the agency said.

Outstanding participants in the national games will be selected for China's first team to compete in the Olympic Games since it joined the International Olympic Committee in 1979.

China boycotted the 1980 Moscow Olympics in protest over the Soviet intervention in Afghanistan.

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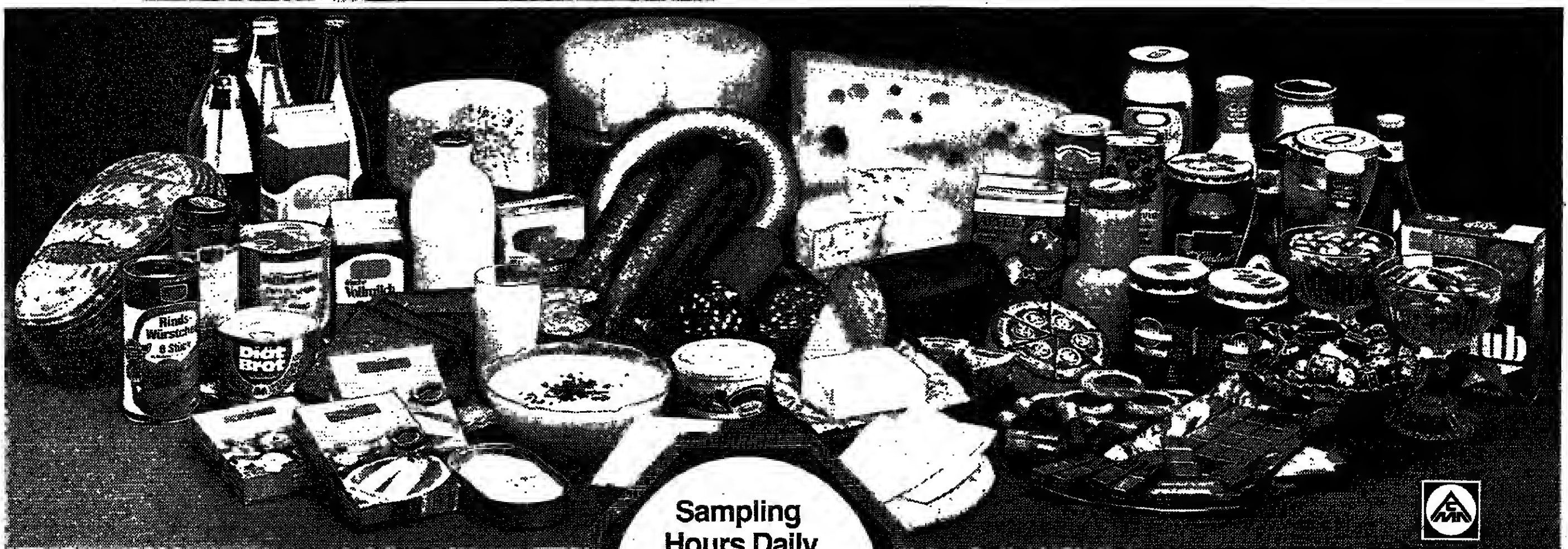
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GERMAN FOOD
ALL OVER
THE WORLD

ECONOMY

Kuwaiti-owned firm buys Pace Petroleum

LONDON (R) — Hays Group Limited, a British company owned by the Kuwait government, said Thursday it had acquired Pace Petroleum Limited, an independent petrol supplier.

Pace has a £50 million (\$75 million) annual turnover and supplies over 400 petrol stations in Britain.

The group said the purchase price was a seven-figure sterling sum, but declined to disclose details.

Hays, whose ultimate shareholder is the Kuwait Investment Office, has an annual turnover of between £500 million and £600 million (\$750 million to \$900 million).

It already owns Sadler and Company Limited, which supplies 250 petrol stations and operates 900 road tankers in the United Kingdom.

Australians awarded 4.3% wage rise

MELBOURNE (R) — Australia's Arbitration Commission Friday awarded the country's workers a 4.3 per cent maximum pay increase, marking the end of a nine-month freeze on rises.

Commission President John Moore announced the rise for the country's 6.2 million workers under a centralised system which fixes one annual rise.

The increase to come into effect on Oct. 6, will end the freeze on rises introduced in December by the former Liberal-National Party coalition government.

The Labour Party, which ousted the coalition in the March 5 general election, received the backing of unions and employers for setting up the Arbitration Commission.

It has been studying submissions from the government, employers and unions for three months.

Under the new system, the commission will sit in February and August of each year to consider making adjustments to the annual increase in line with any rise in the consumer price index.

The 4.3 per cent rise will add 14.84 dollars (\$12.91) to the average male earnings of 345 dollars (\$300.15) a week.

The Labour government introduced the centralised wage rise system in an attempt to peg back inflation, currently running at 11 per cent.

IMF faces serious cash flow problems

CARACAS (R) — The International Monetary Fund (IMF) faces serious cash flow problems by April next year unless it gets fresh income from quotas and borrowing, according to a report prepared by one of its directors.

The fund's uncommitted resources, which in July this year stood at 6.8 billion Special Drawing Rights (SDRs), would otherwise be wiped out by April 1984, and its positive cash flow drop to dangerously low levels.

Unless the IMF changes its policy to allow increased borrowing, the fund could in any case face renewed liquidity problems over the next two years, it says.

The report, circulated in Caracas this week during a meeting of Latin American central bankers, was signed by IMF Executive Director Alvaro Donoso.

Meanwhile, the IMF continues to discuss loans to needy countries but at a sharply reduced rate, monetary sources said Thursday.

In a dramatic gesture timed to coincide with the IMF/World Bank meeting here next week, Managing Director Jacques De Larosiere had advised the fund's board that it had to suspend negotiations on new loans for Third World countries.

The sources said he acted because the fund had reached agreements to lend between \$3.5 and \$4 billion more than it has been able to borrow from rich countries.

But they said that while IMF funds have been over-committed the money has not all been disbursed, a process that sometimes takes nearly three years and allows some leeway for cash-starved countries to raise funds.

The complex state of IMF finances is a key issue as the agency responsible for shepherding the monetary system through its most critical period in a generation prepares for the annual meeting with the World Bank.

West needs to create 20m jobs before 90's, OECD says

PARIS (R) — Western industrialised countries need to create 18 to 20 million new jobs before the end of the 1980's to prevent unemployment rising further, and 15 million more to get it down to its 1979 level, the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) said Friday.

This mammoth task facing governments, particularly in Western Europe, is set out in a new report on the employment outlook for the 24-nation OECD, which links the world's leading industrialised nations, published by its Paris-based secretariat.

Mr. Ron Gass, head of the OECD's social affairs, manpower and education directorate, told a press briefing: "There is no golden road back to full employment."

Economists predict that unemployment in OECD states will stabilise around 34.75 million in 1984 as economic recovery under way in the United States picks up world-wide.

In 1979, the year of the second oil price shock which plunged the Western economies into the worst recession for 50 years, unemployment in the OECD area was around 19 million.

The rate of unemployment had already risen to 5.1 per cent by then from 3.2 per cent in 1973. The OECD predicts it will reach 9.5 per cent in second half of 1983 before levelling out as the long-awaited recovery arrives.

But the report said: "A sizeable

unemployment problem will remain, particularly in Europe."

Cutting back OECD unemployment even to its 1979 level means creating 20,000 new jobs a day between 1984 and 1989, nearly twice as many as the 11,500 a day created between 1975 and 1980 after the first oil price shock in 1973, OECD officials said.

In Western Europe 8,600 jobs a day would be needed, over five times more than the 1,500 jobs a day rate in the second half of the 1970s, they added.

In North America 8,400 jobs a day would be needed compared with 8,100 a day in the period 1975 to 1980, and in Japan 2,000 a day compared with 1,700.

The OECD secretariat is planning a ministerial session early in the new year to try to clarify the underlying policy issues.

Rising labour costs were partly to blame for increased unemployment, especially in Europe.

as firms have shed labour after investing in more capital intensive processes to maintain profitability.

The report said bluntly: "This development (towards higher labour costs) needs to be reversed."

OECD officials highlighted the need for great attention to be paid by Western governments to the problems posed by both long-term adult and youth unemployment.

By the end of next year, one in five of the labour force under 25 is expected to be out of a job in the major OECD countries.

A recent OECD study of the opinions of young people about education and work pointed to widespread discontent, growing frustration and apathy about job prospects.

Labour unions came in for some implied criticism over wage bargaining tactics, which OECD officials said could have a destructive impact on employment and economic policy.

World Bank report sees grim future for sub-Saharan Africa

WASHINGTON (R) — Impoverished people in sub-Saharan Africa will face an even bleaker future unless the international community mobilises more financial help for the region, a World Bank report said Friday.

The study updated a report issued two years ago.

It said a serious situation had now deteriorated even further and it would be irresponsible if wealthier countries did not step in with assistance.

It said it would be an international tragedy if wealthier countries did not increase assistance to sub-Saharan Africa, particularly since the African states appeared willing to take the steps necessary to reform their economies.

A deterioration of the economies of African countries which characterised the 1970s had continued into the 1980s, the report said. All major economic measurements, including gross national products, agricultural levels, exports and imports of food, "remain matters of extreme concern."

The report said more money should be pumped into the International Development Association (IDA), the World Bank's soft-loan affiliate. The United States has opposed the World Bank's request for about \$16 billion over three years, saying that IDA programmes should be scaled down and go only to the very poorest countries.

The report said: "Replenishment of IDA at an adequate level is now critical if effective support is to be given to the incipient movement towards major policy reform in Africa."

It emphasised that domestic policy alone in about 40 countries south of the Sahara would not resolve the region's economic crisis.

Dunlop sells European business to Sumitomo

LONDON (R) — Dunlop, one of the world's oldest tyre manufacturers, announced Thursday it was selling most of its European tyre business to a Japanese company for £82 million (\$123 million).

Dunlop chairman Sir Campbell Fraser said the sale of plants and facilities in Britain and West Germany to Sumitomo Rubber Industries was necessary to stop severe trading losses.

Dunlop lost £24 million (\$36 million) on European tyre operations last year and £14 million (\$21 million) in the first half of this year.

Sir Campbell said the deal could cost some 1,000 jobs in Britain.

In Britain, Sumitomo is principally buying bus and truck tyre operations at Dunlop's biggest plant, Fort Dunlop outside Birmingham in the Midlands, and the entire plant at Waltham in northern England.

In West Germany, Sumitomo is acquiring the Dunlop tyre factory at Wittlich and tyre manufacturing facilities at Hanau.

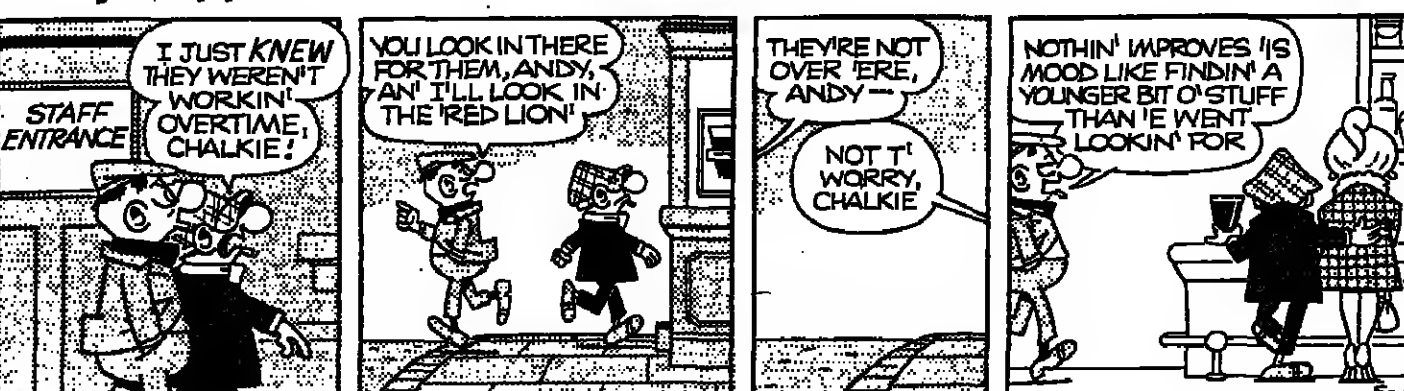
Peanuts



Mutt 'n' Jeff



Andy Capp



FORECAST FOR SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 24, 1983

YOUR DAILY Horoscope

from the Carroll Righter Institute

GENERAL TENDENCIES: You will have lots of interest in making some new conditions that interest you come true and you would be wise to carefully consider them and not let your enthusiasm run away with you.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) You have many ideas but can't decide which to get in motion as yet, so keep studying them and tomorrow you know better.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) Good day to sit in the quiet of your study or office and decide on new outlets that fascinate you. Take time to meditate.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) Being too busy with other affairs, you have been neglecting personal matters of late, so get at them now. Use care in motion.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to July 21) Get into career affairs early and achieve a good deal, plus being more efficient at them. Socialize with friends.

LEO (July 22 to Aug. 21) You have some new and progressive course you want to put in motion, so go ahead with it, even if you have to change some partners.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) Good day to make business plans that will extend far into the future and talk the matter over first with an expert.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) Try to gain more good will from associates and you will get better results in the future. Co-workers are helpful.

SCORPIO (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) Get into discussions about other sports and amusements than the usual with friends for the near future.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) Change your attitude somewhat and bring more harmony into your home and be happier there in the future.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) Good day for shopping, running errands, making out reports and looking into the newspaper for good opportunities, ideas.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) Get busy doing whatever can bring you a greater abundance in the days ahead, and don't spend much money.

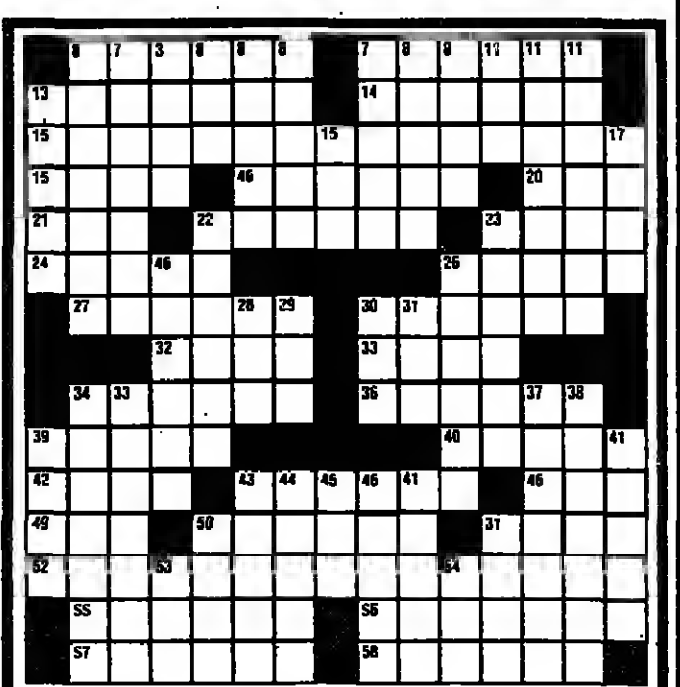
IF YOUR CHILD IS BORN TODAY ... he or she will be one of those charming young persons who will fit right in to the current swim of things, so, as parents be alert to what is going on also, and then you can assist your progeny more in realizing his, or her potential.

"The Stars Impel, they do not compel." What you make of your life is largely up to you!

THE Daily Crossword

By J. & P. Barick

- | | |
|-------------------------|-----------------------------|
| ACROSS | DOWN |
| 1 Effluvium | 1 Aztec or Toltec |
| 7 Fashined | 2 Trespass |
| 13 Filibus | 3 River in Switzerland |
| 14 Mental condition | 4 Depot: abbr. |
| 15 To a rare degree | 5 Lodge member |
| 18 Extreme ones | 6 Dress |
| 19 Signal | 7 Cheerful aspect |
| 20 Signet | 8 Privilege |
| 21 Old French coin | 9 Moroccan sandal tree |
| 22 Spring of a kind | 10 — excellence |
| 23 Role at the Met | 11 Obtains a certain way |
| 24 Control tower device | 12 Tricks |
| | 13 Ceremonial meal |
| | 14 Underworld god |
| | 15 Period of time |
| | 16 Compulsions |
| | 17 Upholstered piece |
| | 18 Sub rosa |
| | 19 Pretentious and others |
| | 20 Spurs to action |
| | 21 Odorous |
| | 22 Covered with paint |
| | 23 Having wings |
| | 24 Lowered in prestige |
| | 25 Begins |
| | 26 Decline |
| | 27 Word in a recipe |
| | 28 Border of a garment |
| | 29 — my brother's keeper? |
| | 30 Makes back losses |
| | 31 Scrambled word |
| | 32 Fencing thrust |
| | 33 Repressed |
| | 34 Certain measures: abbr. |
| | 35 Halts |
| | 36 Flower part |
| | 37 Sucker |
| | 38 Old Greek dialect |
| | 39 Horned animal, for short |
| | 40 Expertly |
| | 41 Self |
| | 42 Medicinal herb |
| | 43 Wood |
| | 44 Sorrel |



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JUMBLE. THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME by Henri Arnold and Bob Lee

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

CIEPE

YERAW

CHELEK

SATECK

WHAT THEY CALLED THAT ECCENTRIC CABDRIVER.

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Answer: A

Yesterday's Jumbles: BUSHY TOKEN MAKEUP ACHING

Answer: What it was for him when they repossessed the TV — A "SET BACK"

WORLD

Filipino police expect more trouble after Friday's demos

MANILA (R) — Police used teargas and truncheons to break up an anti-American demonstration by 2,000 students outside the U.S. embassy in central Manila Friday, and a senior police official warned of further possible unrest.

Student leaders said they were protesting against President Ferdinand Marcos, and described him as a puppet of the United States. The students carried an effigy of U.S. ambassador Michael Armstrong.

In a separate incident, some 3,000 people gathered in the capital's financial district dispersed after armed men drove through the crowds, firing teargas at them.

Cardinal Jaime Sin, Roman Catholic archbishop of Manila, was meeting President Marcos Friday night in an attempt to ease the political tension, church officials told Reuters.

They said Mr. Marcos telephoned the cardinal to arrange a

meeting at the presidential palace, which is within 1.5 kilometres of the scene two days ago of the worst violence since the president imposed martial law in 1972.

A spokesman for the cardinal said Sin, known for his criticism of Mr. Marcos' human rights record, was concerned that the president might reimpose military rule.

Mr. Marcos hinted strongly in a television address Thursday he would reimpose martial law, lifted three years ago, if the unrest continued.

He blamed clashes, in which police said 11 people died and 143 were injured, on his political opponents.

In Manila's business centre of

Malakati, witnesses said they saw eight men carrying automatic rifles and wearing gas masks drive down the main street, watched by jeering crowds.

Some 3,000 people gathered on street corners, watched by a police unit equipped with riot shields and truncheons. The armed men drove past and threw four teargas grenades onto the road.

Witnesses said people scattered in all directions. Several hundred returned as darkness fell, clutching handkerchiefs and towels to their faces to protect them from gas spreading rapidly through the area.

A senior officer, leading a column of anti-riot police down the street in a convoy of trucks, told Reuters further trouble was expected in the area.

Students were chased through the streets near the U.S. embassy by truncheon-wielding police.

The student march was org-

anised by the militant Filipino Students League, which accused the United States of propping up Mr. Marcos by aid.

In an interview with Reuters, Metropolitan Manila police chief Prospero Olivas said no further public demonstrations would be allowed without an official permit.

"We are not going to allow anarchy on the streets. We have held back too much already and this has been interpreted as a sign of weakness," he said.

Gen. Olivas said police fired one teargas shell near the U.S. embassy as a last resort, but witnesses said four were fired as the student leaders arrived to talk to police in an attempt to negotiate permission to approach the embassy.

Police said seven demonstrators were arrested near the embassy. No reports of arrests or injuries were received from Malakati, they said.

U.S. reportedly locates missing 'black box' 725 metres below

TOKYO (R) — Japanese foreign ministry sources were quoted Friday as saying the United States had located the "black box" of the South Korean airliner shot down by the Soviet Union on Sept. 1.

The mass circulation daily

Asahi Shimbun reported that the

sources said it was lying on the

bottom of the sea 725 metres

below the surface.

Foreign ministry officials were

not immediately available for

comment because Friday was a

public holiday in Japan.

Rear-Adm. William Cockell of

the U.S. Seventh Fleet said Thurs-

day that high frequency "pings"

from the airliner's black box had

been detected twice this week but

declined to say if they had been

picked up since.

He was speaking to reporters

aboard the guided missile cruiser

U.S.S. Sterett, one of many U.S.

Soviet and Japanese ships search-

ing for remains of the airliner off

the small Soviet island of Mon-

eron to the north of Japan.

Evidence from the black box, which records crew conversations and flight information, may explain why the Korean airliner entered Soviet airspace before it was shot down with the loss of 269 lives.

Asahi Shimbun quoted an unidentified top-ranking foreign ministry official as saying the United States had told Japan that it would hand over the black box to the International Civil Aviation Organisation (ICAO) in Montreal when it found it.

It also said a special team of U.S. experts from Hawaii was on its way to the northern Sea of Japan.

Adm. Cockell further said Soviet ships had risked colliding with American vessels during the search for the flight recorder.

The seven ships under Adm. Cockell's command are concentrating on a 900 square kilometre area and he complained that they had been harassed by Soviet vessels.

The admiral said: "In some cases the Soviet ships have passed so close ahead of us that they have risked collision and in other cases our ships have had to manoeuvre to avoid colliding with stationary Soviet ships."

He said the number of Soviet ships had fallen in recent days from a peak of more than 35 to about 16 or 17 with the departure of a fleet of fishing trawlers.

"We have not observed them retrieving anything from the bottom but I would not preclude they have done that," he said.

The U.S. ships are using a device known as towed locator to pick up signals from the black box, a side-scanning sonar to map the seabed, and a remote-controlled drone transmitting video pictures from the depths.

"The side-scanning sonar lets you survey what is on the bottom with sound. What you get is basically a picture of shapes which an expert interprets for you", Adm. Cockell said.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Elephant lovers meet tragic end

PEKING (R) — Yilong, an amorous female elephant, and Baibao, her 53-year-old mate weighing more than six tonnes, died in Canton zoo after he rebuffed her advances and they landed on top of each other in a narrow moat. The Yangcheng Evening News said Yilong, 42, and weighing four tonnes was in heat when she made a pass at Baibao on Monday, knocking him over in the process and sending him into a narrow, two-metre deep moat surrounding their enclosure. Yilong came tumbling after him and landed on top of the hapless male. Baibao died of shock within an hour. Yilong injured her lungs as she struggled to extricate herself and died later the same day.

S. Korean security tight after blast

SEOUL (R) — Police said Friday they had reinforced security around foreign missions in South Korea after an explosion at a U.S. cultural centre in the southern city of Taegu Thursday night killed a student and injured five other people. Police said they suspected the blast, which destroyed part of the five-storey building and shattered windows of nearby buildings, was a planned attack, but the exact cause was still being investigated. Security was also heightened at tourist hotels, airports and offices of foreign media organisations. Police said Huh Boyong-Chul, a 17-year-old high school student, was killed instantly when a bag he and a policeman were checking exploded at the entrance of the U.S. centre.

China's elderly leaders reported to be athletic

PEKING (R) — Chinese leader Deng Xiaoping is an ardent soccer fan and spends his spare time playing bridge and billiards, an official magazine said in a rare glimpse into the private lives of Chinese officials.

The 74-year-old Mr. Deng also swam one kilometre daily during a recent two-week seaside holiday but unlike most of his colleagues does not take regular exercise, the monthly Liaowang (Observation Post) said.

The magazine depicted most of China's predominantly elderly leaders as paying great attention to physical fitness.

It said Communist Party leader Hu Yaobang, 68, took two or three walks a day using a meter to make sure he had walked at least 10,000 paces.

The most athletic of China's leaders was probably Vice-Premier Wan Li, 67, an enthusiastic tennis player, it said.

Mr. Deng's addiction to bridge was used against him during the Maoist cultural revolution. But the magazine said he now played bridge fairly frequently, often winning, and that he regarded it as "an extremely good activity which exercises one's brain and increases one's power of thought".

Military topics head Weinberger's list in Japan, China

TOKYO (R) — U.S. Defence Secretary Caspar Weinberger visits Japan on Saturday as an air of tension spreads over northeast Asian waters following the downing of the South Korean airliner by Soviet fighters.

As Mr. Weinberger meets his Japanese counterpart Kazuo Tanikawa, the largest fleet of Japanese and U.S. naval ships assembled in five years prepares for naval manoeuvres off Japan starting Sunday.

And in the seas north of Hokkaido, Japan's northernmost island, only metres separate ships of the American and Soviet navies searching for wreckage of the airliner.

Mr. Weinberger in his talks with Mr. Tanikawa is expected to con-

tinue American pressure on Japan to increase its defence spending to the point where it can meet a commitment to defend sea lanes extending 1,800 kilometres from Tokyo and Osaka.

The navy wargames, lasting 11 days, will test the ability of about 150 U.S. and Japanese ships to defend shipping lanes around the archipelago and to close straits between Japan and South Korea and between the Japanese islands.

Military sources said that Mr. Weinberger is not expected to visit the manoeuvres.

The two ministers last met in Washington in August when Mr. Weinberger told Mr. Tanikawa that Tokyo's plan to raise defence spending by just under seven per cent in the financial year beg-

inning next March was insufficient considering the impact of inflation.

The Japanese government takes the view that more spending on defence would be difficult because Japan has a huge budget deficit and is trying to cut back state spending.

Also it points out that Japanese public opinion balks at the idea of spending more than one per cent of gross national product on defence and current outlays on the military are very close to that figure.

Arms for China

HONOLULU (R) — U.S. Defence Secretary Caspar Weinberger said Thursday night he would listen to all requests from

China for U.S. arms when he visits Peking on Sunday.

He told reporters on his plane taking him to Asia that a strong China would help to deter Soviet aggression and keep peace in the world.

Defending the policy of supplying arms to a communist country, he said: "We think that a strengthened Chinese economy and a modernised, strong military is an important part of world stability and of maintaining world peace."

He said he was willing to talk about any weapons systems the Chinese might want, but he did not think any sales were imminent. "I don't have any order books with me," he said.

But he said the items the Chinese might want included air defence and early warning radar systems and lorries and troop-carrying helicopters to give mobility to their army, the world's largest.

With relaxed regulations governing the export of U.S. technology, the way was open for China to either buy U.S. weapons or manufacture U.S.-designed weapons for themselves, he said.

After his talks in China, Mr. Weinberger will spend a night in Hong Kong before going to Pakistan.

India says hanging is not cruel form of death

NEW DELHI (R) — India's Supreme Court Friday ruled that hanging was not a cruel form of execution, opening the way for 12 murderers to be sent to the gallows.

The court rejected appeals by the murderers that they should not be hanged because it was inhuman, barbaric and cruel when less painful and more sophisticated methods were available.

The three-member Supreme Court, presided over by Chief Justice Y.V. Chandrachud, also unanimously rejected appeals that hanging should be replaced by the electric chair, the gas chamber, lethal injections or a firing squad.

"None of these methods has any distinct or demonstrable advantage over the system of hanging," the ruling said.

During the present case the Supreme Court was deluged with arguments from pro and anti-hanging lobbies.

The Indian government held that hanging was the best method of execution and did not violate the fundamental rights of citizens.

There have been several attempts recently to have capital punishment declared unconstitutional, including a ruling by the Supreme Court in 1981 that the death sentence could only be carried out in the "rarest of rare" cases.

TUHE Supreme Court decision ends a stay on executions in India since last May when a death row prisoner convicted of two murders first raised the issue. In several cases the stay order came only 24 hours before criminals were to be hanged.

Reagan's man admonished

WASHINGTON (R) — U.S. Interior Secretary James Watt has apologised to President Reagan for publicly describing a governing study panel as containing "a black, a woman, two Jews and a cripple."

It was the latest in a series of controversies that have dogged Mr. Watt since he joined the Reagan cabinet in 1981.

Mr. Watt sent a letter of apology to Mr. Reagan early Thursday and it was made public by the White House shortly after five senators from Mr. Reagan's own

Republican Party demanded Mr. Watt's resignation.

"He is an embarrassment to the president who appointed him. He is an embarrassment to the Republican Party to which I belong," New Hampshire Sen. Warren Rudman said.

Sen. Lowell Weicker of Connecticut said Mr. Watt's comments represented "the trash of American thought and what one does with trash is what I suggest the president do with James Watt."

U.S. court orders cancer treatment for 12-year-old

KNOXVILLE, Tennessee (R) — Court-ordered cancer treatment began Thursday for 12-year-old Pamela Hamilton, despite her father's resistance to medical aid for her on religious grounds.

But doctors said that at best, they only had a one in four chance of saving her.

Chemotherapy for Pamela was ordered Wednesday by the Tennessee Court of Appeals. A State Supreme Court justice refused to

block the order.

Pamela's father, Larry Hamilton, a minister of the Church of God of the Union Assembly in LaFollette, Tennessee, said the decision will be appealed to the full state supreme court.

Pamela's parents oppose the use of medication because their religious conviction prohibits it. They believe God will cure their daughter.

S. African homeland hit by shortage of doctors

JOHANNESBURG (R) — The shortage of doctors in the South African tribal homeland of Venda is so acute that many ill adults have never seen a doctor in their lives.

Dr. Joe Jivhuho of Soweto spoke to reporters Thursday after a meeting of operation hunger. A five-month-old relief project designed to help feed children in many drought-stricken areas.

Dr. Jivhuho, who leads a group of black doctors visiting Venda monthly to provide free medical care, said the South African government had told Venda not to give him permission to do so.

He said the critical medical situation in Venda, where there are only 11 doctors to serve an estimated population of about 500,000, showed the "weakness of the homeland system."

Sudanese elephants reported massacred

NAIROBI (R) — Poachers may have massacred as many as half of Sudan's 135,000 elephants, sometimes with the help of government officials, a leading conservationist has said.

"The introduction of automatic weapons into southern Sudan over the past four years has resulted in a disaster for elephants there which are being wiped out for the benefit of ivory traders," Ian Douglas-Hamilton told Reuters in an interview Thursday.

The Nairobi-based British expert said that according to recent information he had received from southern Sudan, ivory had become "the currency of personal monetary advancement" in the area, particularly among the armed forces, the police and

high-ranking local officials.

Asked whether he thought the central government in Khartoum was aware of the situation, he replied: "Surely they know and they are totally indifferent."

Mr. Douglas-Hamilton is a member of an organisation called the African Elephant and Rhinoceros Specialist Group which seeks to protect the continent's wildlife.

Mr. Douglas-Hamilton said much ivory leaving Sudan also comes from the Central African Republic as well as Zaïre.

He described the situation in the region as a whole as "one of the greatest mammalian catastrophes of the 20th century."

Reports received by experts indicated that ivory reaching the Far East from Sudan did not come from hunters selecting large male elephants but that all types of elephant in the region were being indiscriminately killed, he added.

U.S. president's command jet to be shifted inland, report says

WASHINGTON (R) — The plane which the U.S. president would use as a command post in the event of a nuclear war is to be shifted inland from Washington because of a possible threat posed by a Soviet nuclear submarine attack. The Washington Post said Thursday.

The specially-designed Boeing 747 airliner has for some years been located at Andrews air force base on the eastern fringes of the capital.

But the Post said it was feared that the president would be unable to make it from the White House to the air base if there was a surprise nuclear attack from submarines off the Atlantic coast.

The Post said this was revealed in testimony to a closed session of the house appropriations subcommittee last May by Donald Latham, deputy under-secretary of defence for command, control, communications, and intelligence.

The newspaper said Mr. Latham's testimony did not reveal how the president would be transported from the White House to the inland air base.

The Post also quoted him as saying the Pentagon had planned for a new communications system which would survive an initial nuclear attack and give the president time to arrange for a counterstrike.

'Would you like to buy a tail?'

LONDON (R) — Police were Friday hunting thieves who cut off and stole the tails of 19 British army horses in training for ceremonial duties for Queen Elizabeth. The horses, which were in a field at the headquarters of the Royal Army Veterinary Corps at Velsom Mowbray, central England, were discovered Thursday with all or part of their tails missing, police said.

Chilean squatters cause demonstration

SANTIAGO (R) — Police firing tear gas grenades clashed Thursday with stone-throwing demonstrators after clearing squatters who seized an empty plot of land in the Chilean capital. The semi-official Orbe news agency said hundreds of families, who had pitched tents on the site in southern Santiago, agreed to leave peacefully after talks with police and officials. When the squatters started throwing stones at police who replied with tear gas and dispersed them.

Man throws knife at police guard

LONDON (R) — A knife-wielding man was overpowered Thursday by a police guard at a gate of Buckingham Palace. Police said the man threw the knife at the policeman but missed and was quickly wrestled to the ground not far from watching tourists in front of the palace. A police spokesman said no one was injured in the struggle. Police described the "knife-feman" as a 46-year-old Asian but refused to give his name. They said he was being detained and would be sent to a mental hospital. No charges were likely to be made because of his apparent mental condition, the spokesman told Reuters.

Haitian opposition editor murdered

NEW YORK (R) — A Haitian newspaper editor, and publisher who campaigned against the Duvalier government was shot dead in front of his home here, police said Thursday. The family of Firmin Joseph, 52, founder and editor of the month old Tribune d'Haiti, have told police they believe his murder Wednesday night was a political killing. Yves Joseph, the publisher's 22-year-old son, said the paper received a call last month from a man claiming to be a Haitian official who demanded it stop publishing a series called "157 days in a Haitian jail."

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN
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DEAR MR. GOREN

Q.—What constitutes a takeout double? There are some players who maintain that you cannot make a takeout double when your hand contains a five-card suit, especially if it is a major. Others say you must have at least 13 high-card points for a takeout double. Please give us the official word?—R. Perez, Miami, Fla.

[This question has been awarded the weekly prize.]

A.—There are a lot of modern theories on overalls and takeout doubles, but I don't subscribe to many of them. The tried and true ways are still perfectly sound.

A takeout double shows about the strength of an opening bid. It promises support for all unbid suits. The more perfect the shape of the takeout doubler's hand, the more he can have the strength for his bid. For example, I would make a takeout double of one diamond opening bid with:

♠Axx ♥K10xx ♦x ♣QJxx

However, I would not double with:

♠Axx ♥K10xx ♦xx ♣QJxx

I know that some modern players will never make a takeout double of an opening bid when they hold a five-card spade suit. But to me, a

takeout double of one diamond is the obvious bid on:

♠AJxx ♥K10xx ♦xx ♠Axx

The trouble with overcalling one spade on this hand is that you can quite possibly lose a 4-4 heart fit, which could easily prove to be the best contract. Also, you should not overlook the possibility of punishing the opponents on those hands when partner has length and strength in their suit.

Here's another hand where I would make a takeout double of one diamond with a five-card major:

♠Kxx ♥AKJxx ♦xx ♠AJxx

This hand is too strong for a mere overcall. You can describe it as accurately by first doubling and then bidding hearts over any action that partner takes.

Here's a useful rule of thumb. When making a takeout double, value your hand as if it were going to be the dummy (which, indeed, is likely to be the case). So add 3 points for a singleton and 5 for a void in the opponents' suit, and if you come up with the equivalent of an opening bid, your hand is good enough for a takeout double.

Apply this rule to our first example. You will come up with a valuation of 14 points, which clearly justifies our decision to double. Note, however, that the second example is worth only 12 points.